Columbus Landing.

HISTORY PRIMER

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PREFACE.

In the elementary schools throughout this country, the general custom has been to postpone the study of history until the fifth or sixth year of the course. History is not entirely neglected in the earlier grades, but is taken up very informally. Even in the first grade our national holidays are made the occasion of simple exercises and oral lessons. The lives of our national heroes furnish considerable story material which is used to awaken patriotism as well as to arouse an interest in the history of our country.

It has seemed to the authors that by the third or fourth year of school life it would be a distinct benefit to the pupil to have some of this historical material arranged in simple, interesting and somewhat connected form. This History Primer is an attempt to do this as well as to furnish a book which will serve as a transition to the more formal study of history in the higher grades.

In accordance with universally accepted educational principles, the biographical method of treating the subject has been followed. The chronological sequence has been adhered to as far as possible, but has necessarily been subordinated to the biographical treatment wherever it conflicted with the latter.

The controlling idea in the mind of the authors has not been to furnish merely a text for study, but rather to awaken

an interest in history and to arouse a spirit of patriotism; in other words, to continue with the aid of a book, the lessons furnished in the earlier grades by means of holiday celebrations and oral instruction. These earlier lessons supplied valuable subject matter for language instruction, and it is hoped that this History Primer may provide interesting material for more extended exercises of the same nature.

Throughout the book an attempt has been made to keep the language as simple and clear as possible, and to eliminate from consideration the discussion of topics beyond the comprehension of pupils of the third or fourth year of school. The age of the pupil has also been carefully considered in the important matters of typography and illustration.

It is hoped that whether the book be used as a history reader, as a basis for language work, or as a text for study, it will awaken an interest in history and serve as an attractive introduction to the later and more formal study of the subject.

O. G.

CONTENTS.

HISTORY PRIMER.

CHAPTER I.

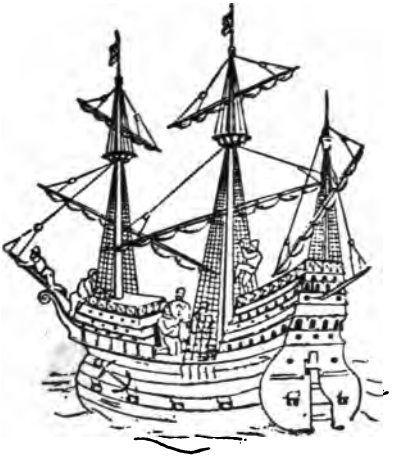
CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS.

1. Ideas about the World before America was Discovered.—In olden times the people did not know much about the world in which they lived. Between

Map of the World, the Dark Parts Unknown before Columbus.

400 and 500 years ago the people who lived in the lands far across the ocean did not know that there was such a country as America.

In those days they had no steamships, and their sailboats were not so large and strong as the big ships we have now. The sailors were afraid to go a great distance from shore. They believed that far out on the ocean there were horrid sea serpents and other strange creatures that would attack their ships.



Boats of Those Days (from old Pictures).

They did not know that the earth was round. They thought that it was flat, and they were afraid that they might fall off the edge if they sailed too far.

There were some wise men who did not believe these stories. They believed that although the earth looked flat, it was really round. One of these wise men was named **Christopher Columbus.**

Columbus Asking Aid of Queen Isabella. (From the Painting by Brozik.)

Columbus was a brave man. He was not afraid to sail across the ocean. His daring voyage is really the beginning of the history of our country. Every American boy and girl ought to know something about the life of this great man and the story of his discovery of America.

2. Early Life of Christopher Columbus.—Christopher Columbus was born nearly five hundred years ago in Genoa, a city on the sea-coast of Italy.

When Christopher was a little boy he was fond of watching the ships. He liked to listen to the stories that the sailors told. He often wished that he could go with them on their voyages to other countries. His father and mother were wool combers. Christopher did not like this trade but wanted to be a sailor.

Although his parents were poor, they sent Christopher to school. He studied geography and liked to draw maps.

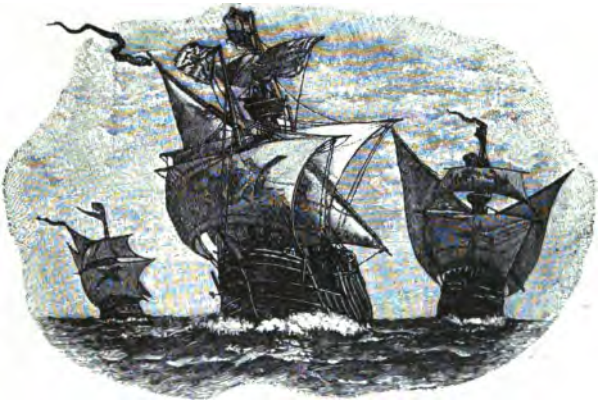
Columbus was so fond of the sea that he became a sailor when he was only fourteen years old. He made many voyages and became a captain when quite a young man. The vessels he sailed in sometimes had fights with pirate ships.

Columbus was also made captain of warships. He won many sea fights because he was such a brave leader. Once after fighting all day his ship was set on fire. He jumped from his burning vessel into the

sea. With only an oar to help him, Columbus swam all the way to shore, a distance of six miles.

Columbus found time to study many books on geography. He talked with sailors who had made long voyages. The things he learned made him feel sure the earth was round, although most people in those days believed it was flat.

3. Columbus in search of Help.—There was a rich country in the East named India. People who wished



Columbus' Ships.

to trade with this country had to travel a long distance over sea and land. The journey was not only long but also dangerous. Columbus was sure that the earth was round and he thought he could find a short way to India by sailing west across the ocean.

Columbus wanted to get some ships so that he

could sail across the ocean to India. Nobody was willing to help him. Most of the people laughed at his plans and some thought that he was crazy. The few people who believed as Columbus did were not willing to lend him their ships. They were afraid they might be wrecked or lost far out on the unknown sea.

But Columbus felt sure he was right. He had made up his mind to sail across the ocean. In spite of many disappointments he kept on trying to get the ships.

After waiting many years Columbus at last got help from Ferdinand and Isabella, king and queen of Spain. They fitted up three small ships and made him captain of the fleet. He had a hard time to find sailors to go with him. They were afraid to risk their lives on the dangerous voyage Columbus was going to make.


Columbus.

4. The Voyage.— On a bright summer morning (August 3, 1492) Columbus set sail with his three little ships, the Nina, the Pinta and the Santa Maria. There were tears in the eyes of many of the sailors as the boats left the shore. They feared they would never see their homes again.

When the ships got out of sight of land the sailors grew more and more afraid. As day after day passed and no land came into sight the sailors begged Columbus to turn back. He tried to quiet their fears and told them to trust in him.

As time went on the sailors became angry and disobedient. When Columbus refused to turn back, some of the men threatened to throw him overboard. Columbus would not change his course, and he made the men obey his orders.

5. The Discovery of Land.—At last signs of land began to be noticed. Some land birds flew past the ships. Branches of trees and pieces of wood floated by. One of the men picked up a carved stick from the water.

The sailors now felt sure that land was near. They were no longer afraid to go ahead. Every man kept a strict look out. Columbus had promised a prize to the one who would first see land.

Columbus stood on the deck keeping watch during the night. He was the first to see a light moving in the distance and so won the prize himself.

Soon after Columbus saw the light, a gun was fired from one of the other ships. This was a signal that land was in sight. The next morning (October

12, 1492) a beautiful island could be seen a few miles away.

Columbus on the Lookout for Land.

6. The Landing of Columbus.—The ships anchored near the island. Columbus and his captains dressed themselves in their finest clothes and were rowed ashore.

When they reached the land they fell upon their

knees, kissed the earth and gave thanks to God. They then raised the royal banner as a sign that they claimed the land for the King and Queen of Spain.

7. The People Columbus Found.—The people living on the island were surprised when they saw the ships coming towards the shore. They had never seen sail boats before, and some of them

Native Huts as Columbus Found Them.

thought the ships were big birds that had flown down from heaven. They were scared at first and hid in the woods.

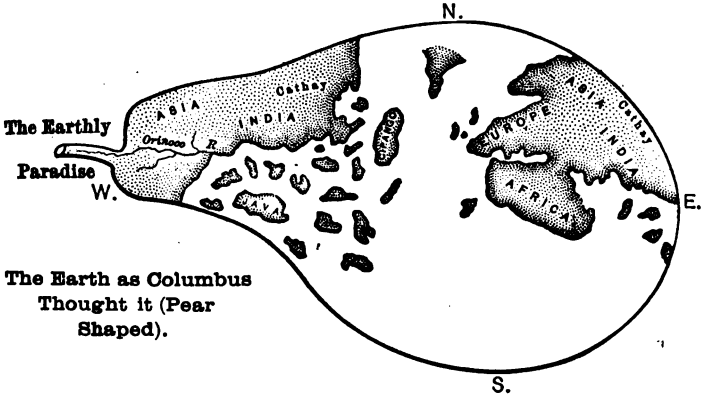
By and by they gained courage enough to draw near to the strange people who had landed on their shore. Columbus and his men were the first white

people they had ever seen. The natives wore almost no clothes and had copper-colored skins. They were filled with wonder at the white skins and fine clothes of the strangers.

Columbus gave them presents of glass beads, red caps and other trifles. They were as pleased with these things as little children are with new toys.

Columbus thought the island was a part of India, so he called these naked red men Indians.

8. The Mistake Columbus Made.—But Columbus had made a mistake. He was still thousands of



The Earth as Columbus Thought it (Pear Shaped).

miles from India. He did not know that another broad ocean would have to be crossed before he could reach that country. Columbus never found out that he had really discovered a new continent—America.

9. Columbus Returns to Spain. — Columbus cruised about among the West India islands trying to find the mainland of India. He discovered the island of Cuba. He thought it was part of Asia.

One of his ships, the Santa Maria, was wrecked near the island of Hayti. He used the timber of the wreck to build a fort there. He left about forty of his men in charge of the fort and set sail for Spain in the Nina.

After a long and stormy voyage he arrived at Spain. He had been gone more than half a year.

The people received him with great joy. They listened with wonder to the story of his voyage and discovery. They were astonished at the sight of the Indians, the strange animals and the rare plants which Columbus had brought back with him. Those who before had laughed at him now bowed down before him.

The King and Queen of Spain gave a fine parade in his honor. Every body now praised Columbus and spoke of him as a great man.

10. Later Voyages of Columbus.—Columbus made three other voyages to the new world. He did not succeed in finding the gold and silver which the people of Spain expected him to bring back. They were greatly disappointed. They blamed Columbus and treated him very badly.

11. Last Days of Christopher Columbus.—Columbus was now poor and had lost his friends. His best friend, Queen Isabella, had died and the King would not help him.

His last days were full of sorrow. He died at the age of seventy. His body was afterward taken from Spain and buried in one of the islands of the West Indies which he had discovered.

CHAPTER II.

HOW THE NEW WORLD GOT ITS NAME.

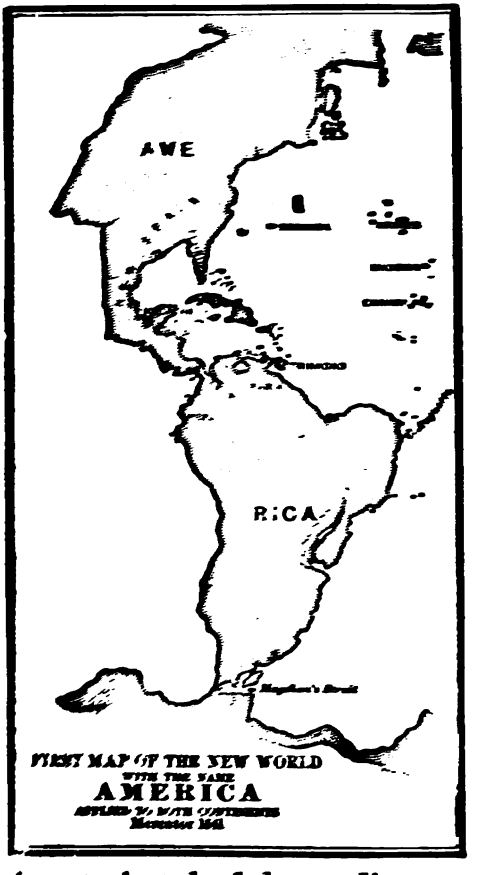
12. Americus Vespucius Explores Coast of South America.—Columbus died without finding out that the land he had discovered was really a new continent. Other men made voyages to the new world but they also thought it was part of Asia.

One of these men was a friend of Christopher Columbus. His name was Americus Vespucius. He made a voyage to what we now call South America and sailed for many miles along the coast. He wrote letters telling about the wonderful things he had seen. These letters were printed in Europe and many people read them.

Americus Vespucius.

13. The Naming of the New Continent.—About that time a German professor wrote a geography. He said that the land which Americus had discovered was really a new continent. He thought that it ought to be named after Americus. Many other people thought so too. In this way the name America was given to the new world. At first the name was given to South America only, but later it was used for North America also.

Many people think that the name should have been Columbia after Columbus who really discovered it. In some songs and poems the name Columbia is used. But the name America has been used so long that it is not likely it will ever be changed.



The maps of the New World that were printed after the discovery of America seem very queer to us indeed. They show how little the explorers of those days really knew about the great continent that had been discovered.

By the time America received its name, more had been learned about the new country, and better maps of it were made.

CHAPTER III.

FERDINAND MAGELLAN.

14. Trying to Find a Passage-way Through America.—For some years after the new world had been discovered and named, people still believed it was near the shores of India. They wished to find a passage-way through which they could sail to India.

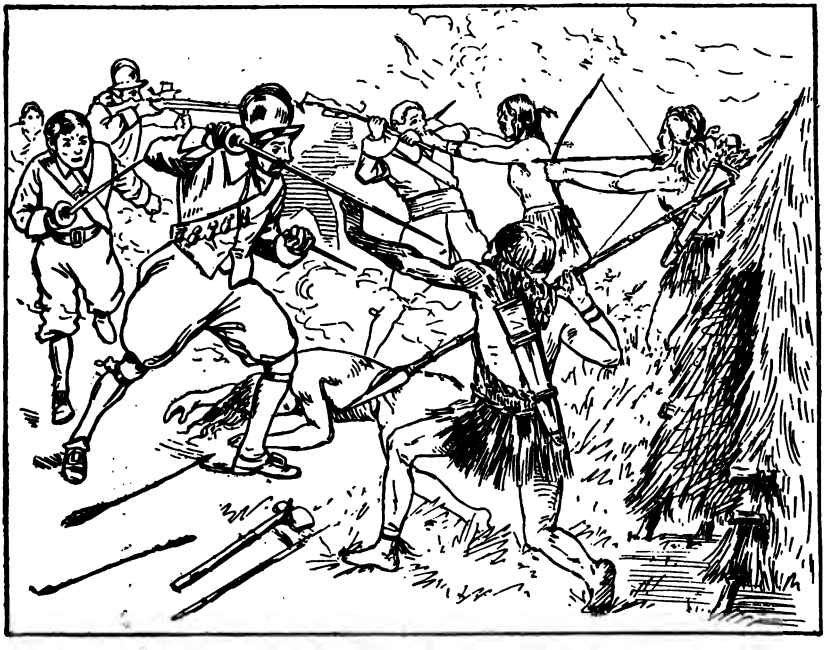
One of the men who tried to do this was named Ferdinand Magellan. Like Columbus he was a bold sailor. When he made up his mind to do anything he would never give up.

Ferdinand Magellan.

15. Magellan Finds a Way to the Pacific Ocean.—He started from Spain as Columbus had done. He sailed across the Atlantic Ocean and along the coast of South America. At last he discovered a strait near the southern end of the continent. He had found a passage-way through America. This passage has been named after him the Strait of Magellan.

After sailing through this strait the sailors found themselves upon another broad ocean. Magellan named it the Pacific Ocean because it seemed so peaceful.

16. Magellan Crosses the Pacific Ocean.—It took



Fight between Explorers and Natives.

many weary weeks to cross the Pacific Ocean. The sailors had not enough to eat and drink. Many of them fell sick and died. Some would not obey Magellan's orders.

In spite of all, Magellan would not turn back, and at last they reached the shores of Asia. This was the land which Columbus thought he had discovered.

17. The Death of Magellan.—Magellan and his men landed on the shores of some islands that are now called the Philippines. They set up a cross and gave presents to the savage people they found there. But these people were not friendly like the Indians Columbus had met. There was a bloody fight between the natives and the sailors. Magellan and many of his men were killed.

18. What the Voyage Proved.—A few sailors escaped in one of the ships. They kept on sailing west and at last reached Spain. They had been gone three years.

Five ships with 250 men had started out. One ship and 15 men were all that returned. They were the first to sail all the way around the world.

This great voyage proved that America was a new continent and not a part of Asia. It also proved that the earth is really round. The ship had kept on sailing west all the time and came back to the place it started from.

CHAPTER IV.

THE INDIANS.

19. White Men make Homes in America.—After awhile the people of Europe gave up the idea of finding a short passage way through America to India. They now tried to find out more about America itself.

An Indian.

Some bold sailors made voyages to America in search of gold and silver. Other men wished to make homes for themselves in the new world. They brought their families with them, cut down trees, built houses and started to farm the land.

20. Troubles with the Indians.—The Indians who lived on this land were at first friendly with the white people. But

they became angry when they found the white men were driving them from their hunting grounds. Before very long there were bloody wars between the Indians and the whites.

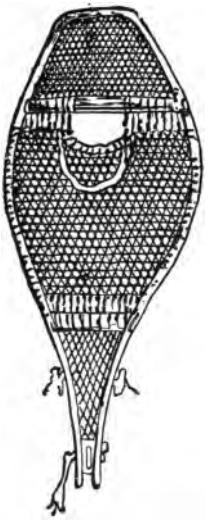
21. What the Indians looked like. How they Dressed.—The Indians were large and strong. They had copper-colored skin and straight, black hair.

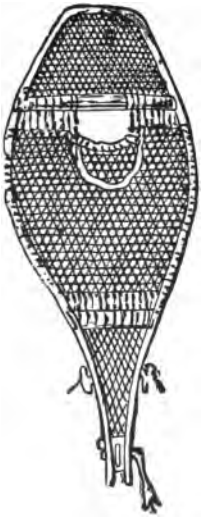
Indian Wigwams.

The women wore their hair long. The men shaved their heads but left a little tuft on top. They called this the scalp lock.

Their clothes were made of the skins of deer and other animals. They wore a kind of shoe made of buckskin. They called them moccasins. They were

good for hunting. The Indians could sneak through the woods very quietly in them.





Snow Shoes.

In winter the Indians fastened broad, flat snow shoes on their feet. With these shoes they could walk upon the snow without sinking in too deep.

22. Wigwams and Canoes.—The Indians lived in tents called wigwams. The wigwams were made of skins and bark stretched on a frame-work of poles.

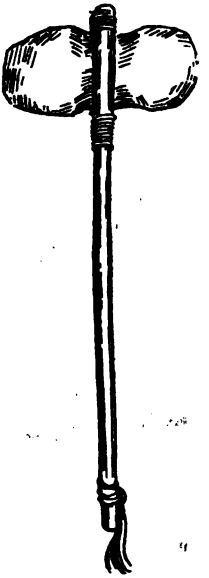
Fires were sometimes built on the earthen floor of the wigwams. There was no chimney. The smoke found its way out through an opening at the top of the tent. When the Indians moved from one place to another, they carried their wigwams with them.

Indian Weapons.

The Indians made light, strong canoes out

of the bark of the birch tree. They paddled them swiftly and quietly over lakes and rivers. The canoes were so light that they could be easily picked up and carried around dangerous rapids.

23. Weapons and Tools.—Before the white men came to this country the Indians had no guns. They used bows and arrows. The strings of the bows were made from the sinews of animals. The heads of the arrows were made of sharpened pieces of hard stone. Feathers were fastened to the other end of the arrows to make them go straight.

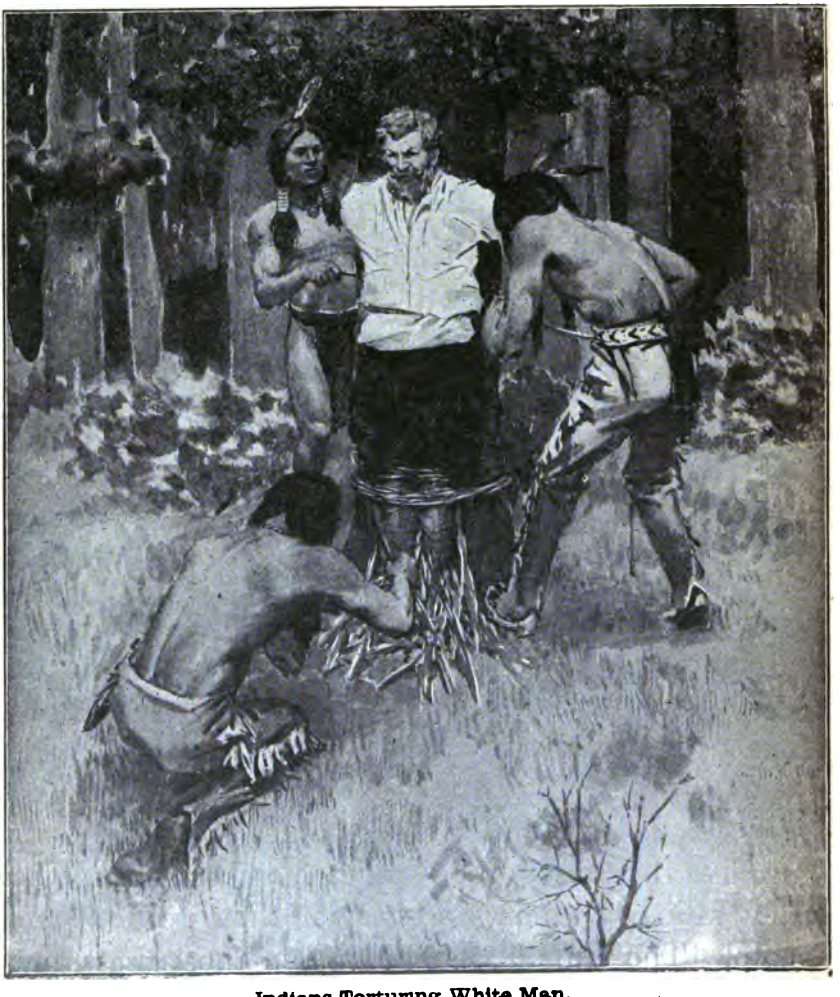


A Tomahawk.

They did not know anything about iron, so all their tools and weapons were made of stone. They made a kind of hatchet called a tomahawk by tying a large piece of sharpened stone to a strong wooden handle. In war they would throw the tomahawk at their enemies.

24. Indian Warfare.—The Indians were good fighters. They painted their bodies and faces so as to make themselves look as fierce as possible. When they killed a man in battle they tore off his scalp. The Indian who had taken the largest number of scalps was thought to be the greatest warrior.

The Indians were brave but cruel. They thought men should be able to stand great pain without cry-



Indians Torturing White Man.

ing out. When they captured an enemy they would cut or burn him, or torture him in other cruel ways. If he cried out they would make fun of him and call him a "woman" or "squaw."

25. How the Indians Lived.—The Indians got most of their food by hunting and fishing. Some of the tribes planted and raised corn. They also grew tobacco. The Indians taught the white men how to raise corn. They also taught them to smoke tobacco.

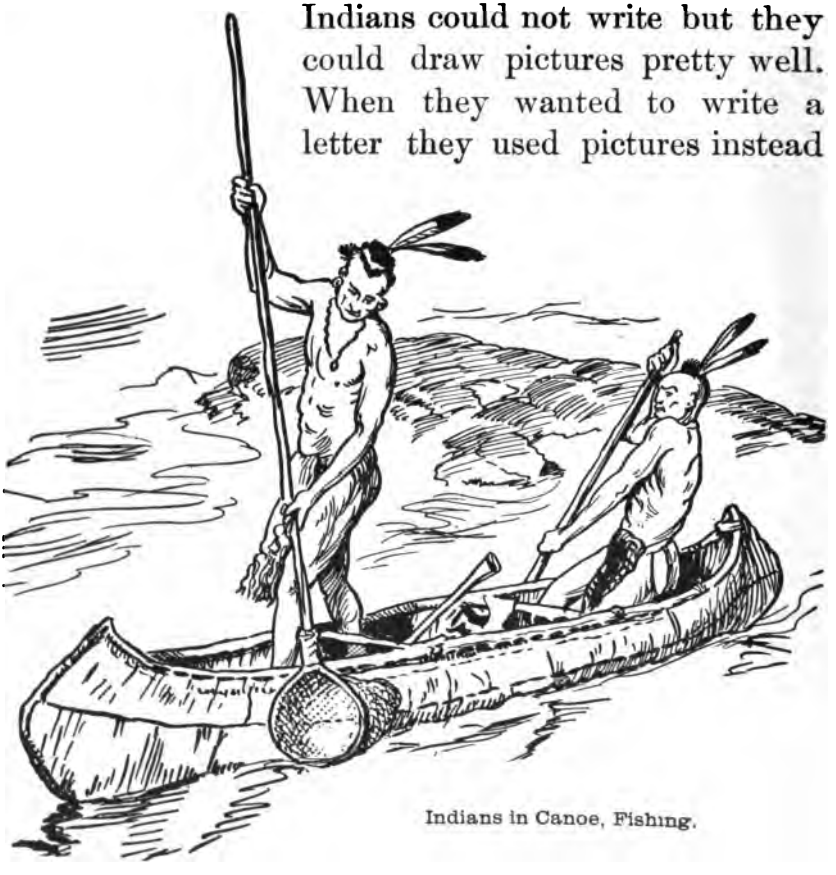
Squaw and Papoose.

The Indian men did the hunting and fighting, but the farming and all the other hard work was done by the women. When an Indian village moved to another place, it was the women who took down the wigwams and carried them and all their other goods to the new camping ground. The women then set up the wigwams again while the men sat by idly watching them. This seemed strange to the white men who would have been ashamed to allow women to do this kind of work.

An Indian baby was called a papoose. A papoose was so bundled up that it could hardly

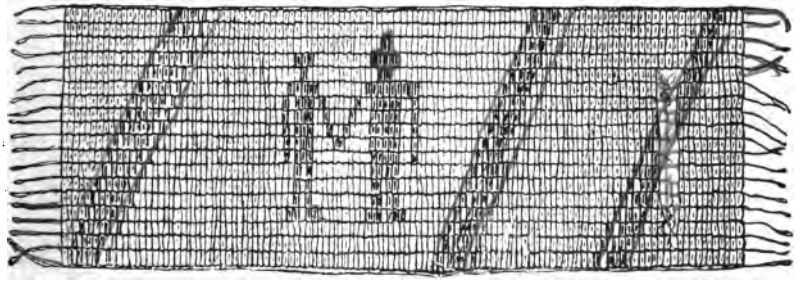
move. It was carried strapped to its mother's back so that the woman's hands were free.

26. Picture Writing.—The Indians could not write but they could draw pictures pretty well. When they wanted to write a letter they used pictures instead of words. This picture writing would be hard for you or me to read but the Indians could understand it.



Indians in Canoe, Fishing.

Some Indians once gave William Penn a belt made of beads. It had on it the picture of an Indian and a white man, hand in hand. This was the Indian's way of writing that they and the white men were to be good friends.



Penn's Belt.

27. Government and Religion.—A number of Indian families living together formed a tribe. Each tribe had its chief. The chief was always one of the strongest and bravest men of the tribe. The people obeyed his orders and he was their captain or leader in times of war.

The Indians worshipped a Great Spirit. They also believed in evil spirits. They thought that when a brave warrior died he went to the Happy Hunting Grounds. They buried his bow and arrows

with him. They thought he would need them in the Happy Hunting Grounds.

De Soto.—One of the first of the white men to have trouble with the Indians was **Ferdinand de Soto,** a Spanish explorer. He first fought the Indians in South America. De Soto thought that much gold and silver could be found in Florida. In 1539 he landed on the western coast of Florida with a little army of about six hundred men. The Indians were unfriendly, so he had to fight nearly all the time. Many of the red men were killed, but De Soto also lost quite a number. He marched north and west for many weary miles through the southern part of what is now the United States. After two years he discovered a great river, called by the Indians the Mississippi—"Father of Waters." De Soto crossed this river, but was much discouraged because he found no gold. The next year he died of fever and was buried in the big river. Those of his men who were left built boats for themselves and floated down the river, at last reaching a Spanish settlement.

CHAPTER V.

SIR WALTER RALEIGH.

28. Raleigh Sends Ships to America.—Walter Raleigh was a young Englishman. He thought that America ought to be settled by people from England. Queen Elizabeth was at that time ruler of England. She was very friendly to Walter Raleigh and helped him to carry out his plans.

Sir Walter Raleigh.

Raleigh sent out ships to try to find a good place for a settlement. When the captains of the ships came back to England they told interesting stories about the new country.

Queen Elizabeth was so much pleased with what Raleigh had done that she made him a knight. He was then called Sir Walter Raleigh.

The part of America which Raleigh's men had visited was named "Virginia" in honor of Elizabeth the virgin (unmarried) queen.

Queen Elizabeth.

29. The First Settlement Fails.—Raleigh afterwards sent two ships with over a hundred men to America. The men landed on an island near what is now North Carolina. They wanted to make homes for themselves here.

But these men were lazy and did not like the hard work of making a living in a new country. In less than a year they grew so tired of it that they all sailed back to England.

30. Potatoes and Tobacco Brought to England.—When the settlers went back to their own country, they took with them two plants that the people of England had never seen before. These plants were tobacco and the potato. The people found that potatoes were good to eat. The farmers raised many

potatoes and people soon wondered how they had ever gotten along without this useful vegetable.

Servant Throwing Water on Raleigh.

At first the people did not know how tobacco was used. One day as Sir Walter Raleigh sat smoking his pipe, a servant came into the room. He thought

Sir Walter was on fire and poured a pitcher of water over him.

Many people did not like tobacco, but it soon became the fashion to smoke it.

31. Failure of Second Settlement.—Although the first settlement was a failure Raleigh would not give up. He now sent out more ships with more than a hundred men, women and children on board. They settled in the new country.

Their governor, John White, left them here and sailed to England. Three years later he came back to the settlement. Not a man, woman or child could be found. Nobody knows to this day what became of them. Perhaps the Indians killed them or perhaps they starved to death.

32. Raleigh's Last Days.—When Queen Elizabeth died Sir Walter Raleigh lost a good friend. The new ruler of England, King James I, treated Raleigh very badly. He put him in prison and some years later ordered him to be beheaded.

CHAPTER VI.

JOHN SMITH.

33. John Smith Sails For Virginia.—Sir Walter Raleigh had failed, but the people of England did not give up the idea of making settlements in America. A number of men set sail for Virginia to make a settlement there. One of the leaders of the party was a man named John Smith.

Captain John Smith (old print).

34. Adventures of John Smith.—When Smith was a young man he ran away from home and became a soldier. Once he was captured by the Turks. They made him a slave. His master tried to whip

him. Smith turned on him and killed him with a heavy club. He then jumped on his master's horse and rode away as fast as he could.

After passing through many dangers Smith at last got back to England. He was glad of the chance to join the men who were then starting for Virginia.

35. Settlement of Jamestown, (1607).—When they reached Virginia they sailed into Chesapeake Bay and up a wide river. They named it the James River and called the place where they landed Jamestown. This was in honor of James I, who was then King of England.

The settlers built a rough fort and placed some small cannon in it. As the weather was warm they did not take the trouble to build houses. They took sails from the ship and used them for tents. Some of the men slept out in the open air.

36. How John Smith Saved the Settlement.—Most of the settlers were not used to work. They were what were called "gentlemen" in those days. They had lost their money and had come to Virginia hoping to get rich quickly. They expected to find gold.

During the summer many became sick and died. If it had not been for Captain Smith the settlement would have been as bad a failure as Raleigh's Smith

became their leader and made the men obey him. When some of the settlers boarded the ship and started to sail to England, Smith turned the cannon of the fort upon them and made them come back.

Captain Smith helped the people who were sick and he made the others work. He made a rule that any one who would not work should not get anything to eat. This was a good rule. Even lazy men would rather work than starve.

Pocahontas Saving Smith.

37. Story of Pocahontas.—One day while Captain Smith was leading a party of his men through

the country they were attacked by Indians. Some of the men were killed and Captain Smith was taken prisoner. The Indians led him to their chief, Powhatan. He ordered Smith to be killed. The Indians made him place his head on a large stone. One of them raised a heavy war club and stood ready to beat out his brains.

Just as Powhatan was going to give the order to strike, his young daughter, Pocahontas, rushed forward. She threw her arms around Smith's head and begged her father to spare his life. Powhatan loved his daughter and on her account allowed Smith to go free. He sent him back to Jamestown. Pocahontas and some of the Indians went with Smith. They took corn and other presents to the settlers.

Pocahontas became a good friend of the white people. When she grew up she married an Englishman named John Rolfe. She went to England with him and lived there the rest of her life.

38. Smith Returns to England.—One day while Smith was out in a boat some of his gunpowder accidentally exploded. He was hurt so badly that he w to England to get doctors to heal his wounds.

Smith wrote books about Virginia and drew many maps of the country. These books and maps taught the people of England more than they had ever known before about the new world.

39. How the Settlement Grew.—The people of Virginia had other governors, but none so good as Smith. As time went on, more people came over from England and the settlement grew.

Raising tobacco became the principal occupation of the people. Many ship-loads of tobacco were sent to Europe.

Beginning of Slavery.

40. The Beginning of Slavery in America.—A few years after John Smith left Jamestown, some-

thing very important happened. A Dutch ship brought 20 negroes to Virginia. They were sold as slaves to the settlers. After awhile more slaves were brought. They were put to work in the tobacco fields. This was the way slavery began in this country.

CHAPTER VII.

THE STORY OF THE PILGRIMS.

41. People badly treated on account of their Religion.—People nowadays may go to any church they choose and worship God in the way they think best. Things were very different 300 years ago when America was being settled.

King James of England wanted all the people of England to go to the same kind of church and worship God in the same way. When people would not do this they were beaten, put in prison and punished in other ways.

42. Some of these People go to Holland.—There were some people in England who would not obey the King, no matter how cruelly they were punished. Although they loved England very dearly, they said they would rather leave their native land than be forced to worship God in any way they did not think right.

They heard that in Holland they would be allowed to have their own religion and to hold their meetings without being interfered with. So a number of them left England and made their homes in Holland.

43. Why the Pilgrims went to America.—The Dutch people treated their new neighbors very well but the Englishmen were not satisfied. They felt strange among their Dutch neighbors. They were afraid their children would grow up speaking the Dutch language instead of the English.

Mayflower.

They were still Englishmen and wanted to live on land owned by England. So they made up their minds to leave Holland and sail for America. They were called Pilgrims on account of their wanderings from place to place.

Myles Standish.

44. The Voyage of the Mayflower.—Over 100 of these Pilgrims, men, women and children, started for the new world on a ship called the Mayflower.

An English soldier, Captain Myles Standish, went with the Pilgrims He was a little man, but he was

brave and strong. He was as great a help to the Pilgrims as John Smith had been to the Virginia settlers.

The Mayflower had a long and stormy voyage. At last it reached the shores of America.

45. The Landing of the Pilgrims (1620).—When the Pilgrims landed they first stepped upon a flat rock lying at the water's edge. This is now known as Plymouth Rock. It is not very large, but it is one of the most famous rocks in the world. Hundreds of people visit it every year.

46. The First Winter.—It was just before Christmas when the Pilgrims landed. The men got to work at once and built some rough log houses.

The weather was very cold and the country looked bare and dreary. It was the beginning of a severe winter. It was very different from the mild weather they had been used to in England.

To make matters worse, the Pilgrims did not have enough food to eat. Before that terrible winter was over most of the people became sick, and about half of them died. Captain Standish did all he could to help the people in their trouble. He was a kind nurse, as well as a brave soldier.

That winter must have seemed a long and dreary one to the suffering Pilgrims, but at last spring came. Green grass and pretty flowers took the place of the

snow. The Pilgrims now began to hope that their worst troubles were over.

47. A Visit from the Indians.—One day the settlers were surprised to see some Indians coming to

Friendly Visit from the Indians.

visit them. One of the Indians called out "Welcome, welcome," to show that they were friendly. He knew only a few English words. He had learned them from another Indian named Squanto who could speak English very well. Squanto had been taken to Eng-

land and afterwards brought back to his native land.

48. The Pilgrims Make Friends with the Indians.—These Indians belonged to a tribe whose chief was named Massasoit. He came to see the white men who had settled in his country.

Massasoit and the governor of the Pilgrims made a solemn promise that the white men and the red men would be friendly to each other. This promise was kept for more than fifty years.

The friendship of the Indians was a good thing for the Pilgrims. Squanto and the other Indians taught them how to plant corn and where to catch fish.

49. A Plentiful Harvest.—The Pilgrims worked hard and by the end of summer their crops were growing finely. In the autumn they had a large harvest. They had plenty of food now—so much that they could lay by a great deal for the coming winter.

The Pilgrims remembered their sufferings of the first winter and were filled with joy to think how much better off they were now. They were a very religious people and gave thanks to God for the blessings He had sent them.

50. The First Thanksgiving.—The Pilgrims thought it would be a good plan to set aside a day

for feasting and thanksgiving. They even invited the Indians to share their feast with them.

When the day came they had plenty to eat. There were roast turkeys, ducks and geese, corn bread and pumpkin pie. Although the Indians were invited guests they brought deer and fish with them to help the feast along.

There were three days of feasting and merry making. Before each meal the Pilgrims offered thanks to God. In the afternoons they played games and ran races. In the evenings they gathered around great log fires and talked and sang. Perhaps there has never been a happier or jollier Thanksgiving than this first one.

After this the Pilgrims set aside a day every year for giving thanks to God. At first only the Pilgrims kept Thanksgiving Day. After awhile people in other parts of the country followed their example.

Thanksgiving Day is now a regular holiday in all parts of our country. The President every year names the last Thursday in November as Thanks giving Day for all the people.

51. Troubles with the Indians.—There were some tribes of Indians who were not so friendly to the Pilgrims as Massasoit's tribe. Canonicus, another chief, hated both Massasoit and the Pilgrims.

One day Canonicus tried to frighten the white

Pilgrims Going to Church.

settlers. He sent the Governor a bundle of arrows wrapped in the skin of a rattlesnake. This meant that his tribe wanted to fight the Pilgrims.

But the Governor sent him a good answer. He filled the snake skin with powder and bullets and sent it back at once to Canonicus. The chief took the hint and let the Pilgrims alone.

To protect themselves against the Indians the Pilgrims built a tall, strong wooden fence around the little town of Plymouth. They kept their eyes and ears open to guard against sudden attacks.

On Sundays when they went to the meeting house each man carried his gun. Even when they knelt down to pray they had their guns beside them so as to be ready for the Indians at a minute's notice.

52. Captain Standish Teaches the Indians a Lesson.—At one time the Indians were quietly getting ready to kill all the white settlers. Captain Standish with a party of men was sent against them. They had a fight with the Indians. They killed some of them and brought

the head of the chief back with them. This scared off the Indians and the settlement was saved.

53. Indian Wars.—But the Indians still gave the settlers a great deal of trouble. They did not fight in open battle but would shoot from behind trees. Sometimes they would enter the cabins when the men were at work in the fields, and kill the women and even the little children.

There were some fierce and bloody wars, but at last the Indians were taught the lesson that the white men had come to stay. Little by little, as time went on, the Indians were driven far away into the wilderness.

CHAPTER VIII.

HENRY HUDSON. THE SETTLEMENT OF NEW YORK.

54. The Dutch Send Henry Hudson to America.—John Smith had tried to find a passage-way through America to the Pacific Ocean. Although he did not succeed, he felt sure that there was such a passage. He sent letters and maps to friends in England to show where he thought this passage could be found.

Henry Hudson.

Henry Hudson, a great sea-captain, was a friend of John Smith. He was one of those to whom Smith had written about the passage through America to the Pacific Ocean.

Henry Hudson was an Englishman. He was so well known as a good captain that he was hired by

the Dutch to make a voyage in search of the short way to India.

55. Hudson Discovers New York Bay and the Hudson River.—Hudson sailed in a ship named the Half-Moon. After a stormy voyage he found a broad bay that seemed to lead far into the country. This was the bay that we now call New York Bay.

Half-Moon on the Hudson.

Hudson sailed up the bay and found that it led to a beautiful broad river. On the western shore of the

river, the bank formed a high rocky wall which extended for about twenty miles up the river. The Palisades, as this rocky wall is now called, are famous for their beauty.

Hudson named this beautiful stream "The Great River," but it did not keep that name. It was soon called Hudson River in honor of the captain who had discovered it.

56. Hudson's Voyage up the River.—The water of the Hudson River is salty for many miles from its mouth. This made Captain Hudson think that perhaps it was a strait connecting the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, the passage way that he was trying to find.

As Hudson sailed further up the river he noticed that it was becoming shallow. At last he could go no farther for fear that his ship would run aground. He had sailed up the river more than one hundred miles, and had reached the place where the city of Albany now stands. He had not found the passage he was seeking, so he turned back and sailed down the river. Later he returned to Holland to tell the Dutch about his voyage.

57. Fur Trade with the Indians.—Though Henry Hudson had not found a short way to India, he made a valuable discovery. There was no gold nor silver along the banks of the Hudson, but there

were Indian hunters who had valuable furs taken from the animals they trapped.

Hudson found that the Indians were friendly. They were willing to trade their furs for hatchets, knives, beads and other trifles.

58. The Settlement of New Amsterdam.—When Hudson told the people of Holland about his discoveries they sent men over to trade with the Indians.

The Dutch traders settled upon a long narrow island at the mouth of the Hudson River. This island was called Manhattan by the Indians. The Dutch bought the whole island from them. They gave the Indians about twenty-five dollars' worth of hatchets, cloth, beads and other trifles in payment for it. The Dutch named their settlement New Amsterdam. This land is to-day worth many million dollars. It is where the great city of New York now stands.

New Amsterdam (old print).

The Dutch were a quiet, peaceful, hard-working people. They kept their houses neat and clean. The Indians were friendly with them and the settlement got along well.

59. New Amsterdam Taken by the English.—The English claimed the land where the Dutch had settled, and sent some ships to take possession of it. The old Dutch governor, Peter Stuyvesant, hobbled

Peter Stuyvesant and his Wooden Leg.

around on his wooden leg and tried to get his soldiers to fight. The English had many more men than the Dutch. It seemed useless to fight, so the Dutch surrendered without a battle.

When the English got possession of the town they changed its name to New York. This was in

honor of the Duke of York, a brother of the King of England.

60. The Last Voyage of Henry Hudson.—But what became of Henry Hudson? The year after he discovered the Hudson river he made another voyage to America in search of the north-west passage. He sailed into the large bay that has been named after him.

His ship was caught in the ice and he had to stay there several months. Hudson and his men did not have enough to eat. At last the men turned against Captain Hudson. They placed him and his son and a few others, who had taken his part, in a small boat and set it adrift. Captain Hudson and his companions were never seen again. It is likely that they died of cold and starvation.

CHAPTER IX.

WILLIAM PENN AND THE FRIENDS.

61. The Friends Treated Badly in England.—The Pilgrims were not the only people who were treated badly in England on account of their religion. The Friends, or Quakers, as they are sometimes called, were also treated cruelly. They were beaten and put in prison.

William Penn.

The Friends seemed to the other people of England to have queer notions. They did not believe in fighting and would not serve as soldiers. They thought one man was just as good as another, so they all dressed alike. A Quaker would not take off his hat even in the presence of the King.

62. Penn's Plan to Help the Friends.—A young man named William Penn was a great leader of the Friends. He was not afraid to preach their religion

even though he was often put in prison for doing so.

The English kept on treating the Quakers very badly. So at last Penn thought it would be a good plan to find a home for them in America.

63. The King Gives Pennsylvania to Penn.—The King of England owed Penn a large sum of money. He had but little money to spare, so he paid his debt by giving Penn a large piece of land in America. In honor of Penn's father the King called the land Pennsylvania. This means Penn's Woods.

This land was worth very little in those days, but Penn was glad to get it. He thought it would be a good place for the Quakers to settle.

64. Settlement of Pennsylvania by the Quakers.—A number of Quakers were soon found who were glad of the chance to settle in Pennsylvania. They sailed across the Atlantic Ocean and up Delaware Bay. They made a settlement (1681) on the Western bank of the Delaware River.

The next year William Penn himself came over with about one hundred more Quakers. They sailed up the Delaware River. William Penn named the place where they landed Philadelphia.

The word Philadelphia means "Brotherly Love." Penn used this name because he wished all the people who would live in this city to treat each other as brothers.

65. Penn Buys the Land from the Indians.—Penn believed in treating everybody fairly. He thought all men were brothers no matter what the color of their skin might be. He said the Indian was as good as the white man and ought to be treated just the same.

As the Indians had been living in Pennsylvania before the white men came over, Penn said the land belonged to them. He thought it would be wrong to take their land without paying them for it. Penn gave the Indians several thousand dollars' worth of hatchets, guns, blankets, beads and other things in payment for the land.

Treaty with the Indians.

66. Penn's Treaty with the Indians.—Penn and the Indians held a meeting under a wide-spreading elm-tree on the bank of the Delaware. Penn told the Indians that the red men and the white men were really one flesh and

blood and should live at peace with each other like brothers.

The Indians had never been spoken to in this way before. They were greatly pleased. They promised that they would live at peace with the white settlers as long as the sun and moon would shine.

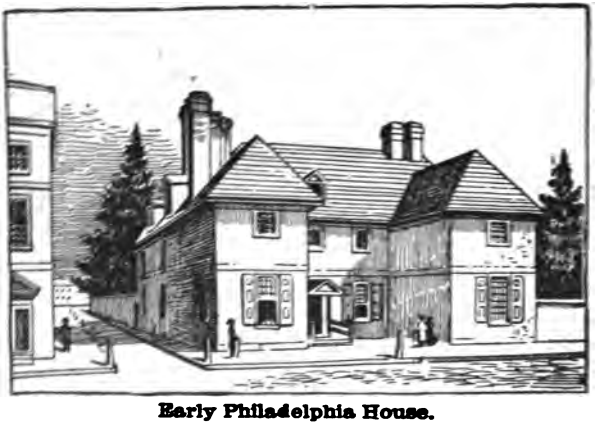
Cave-dwellings in River-bank.

Penn gave the Indians presents and the Indians gave Penn a belt made of wampum. On this belt there was a picture of two men clasping hands. One had a hat on and was meant for William Penn. The other one was meant for an Indian chief. (See page 25.)

Penn's treaty with the Indians was kept faithfully by both the red men and the Quakers. There were no Indian wars in Pennsylvania as there were in other parts of the country.

This showed that the Indians were not such bad people after all. When the white people treated them well they were willing to treat the white people well.

67. Early Settlers.—Many of the first settlers lived for a time in caves which they dug in the banks of the river. As soon as they could, they built log houses for themselves. At first there were only a few houses.



Early Philadelphia House.

William Penn did not mean that Pennsylvania should be settled only by Quakers. He wanted people in all parts of the world who were treated badly in their own country to come here and be free.

Many more people from many different countries came to Philadelphia and the city grew rapidly.

68. Penn's Plan for Philadelphia.—Penn had

made a plan for the city. He wished it to have straight, broad streets. Many of the streets were named after the trees; Chestnut, Walnut, Pine, etc.

He wanted each house built by itself with a grassy lawn around it. He thought this would make the city beautiful. Besides this, fire could not spread easily if the houses were far apart.

Statue of Penn.

69. Death of William Penn.—Penn helped the settlement in many other ways. It is no wonder that there was great sorrow when he died.

The Indians as well as the white people felt they had lost a good friend. Some of the red men sent Mrs. Penn a fine fur cloak. This was to show her how dearly they loved her husband.

Penn died nearly two hundred years ago, but the people of Pennsylvania can never forget the good he did. The City Hall of Philadelphia has one of the highest towers in the world. On the top of this tower there is a large statue of William Penn. His hand is outstretched as if blessing the city he loved so well.

CHAPTER X.

HOW THE ENGLISH COLONIES BECAME THE UNITED STATES.

70. The Thirteen English Colonies.—We have now learned about four settlements in America. The first of these was Virginia, settled by John Smith and a company of English "gentlemen." The second was New England, settled by the Pilgrims. This was afterwards called Massachusetts. The third was New York, settled by the Dutch, and afterwards captured by the English. The last one we learned about was Pennsylvania, which was settled by William Penn and the Quakers.

King George III.

Besides these colonies there were nine others, making thirteen altogether. Most of the people were Englishmen, and all the colonies belonged to England.

71. Governors Sent Over by the King of England.—The King of England sent governors to

most of the colonies. Only a few of the colonies were allowed to choose their own governors. The people had to obey all the laws made in England.

Some of the governors sent over by the King did not treat the colonies fairly. The people hated these men, and wanted to choose their own governors

72. The King Taxes the Colonies.—The people of the colonies had other reasons to complain. The King of England needed money. So he tried to force his people in America to pay him taxes. This made them very angry. They thought the King had no right to take their money unless they were willing to give it.

One of the ways the King tried to raise money from the people of the colonies was to put a tax on tea. This would make them pay a higher price for every pound of tea which they bought. The extra money was to be sent to the King of England. But he could not catch the people this way. They would not buy the tea. They said they would rather do without tea than pay the tax to the King.

73. The Boston Tea Party.—A ship load of tea was sent to Boston. When they heard that the ship had arrived, a party of men in that city dressed themselves up like Indians. They went on board the ship while it was anchored in the harbor. They broke open the chests and threw the tea overboard.

This was called the "Boston Tea-party." At most tea-parties water is poured upon the tea; at this tea-party the tea was poured into the water.


Throwing Over the Tea.

This bold act made the King very angry. He tried to punish the people of Boston by making a law that no ships could enter or leave the harbor of Boston until the tea should be paid for. He also sent soldiers to make the people obey the laws.


English Soldier.

74. The Other Colonies Take Sides with Boston.—All these things only made the people more angry. The other colonies thought that the Boston people were right and took sides with them against the King.

If the King of England had been wise he would have paid more attention to the complaints of the Amer-

ican people. He had not sense enough to do this, but kept on trying to make them obey his unfair laws.

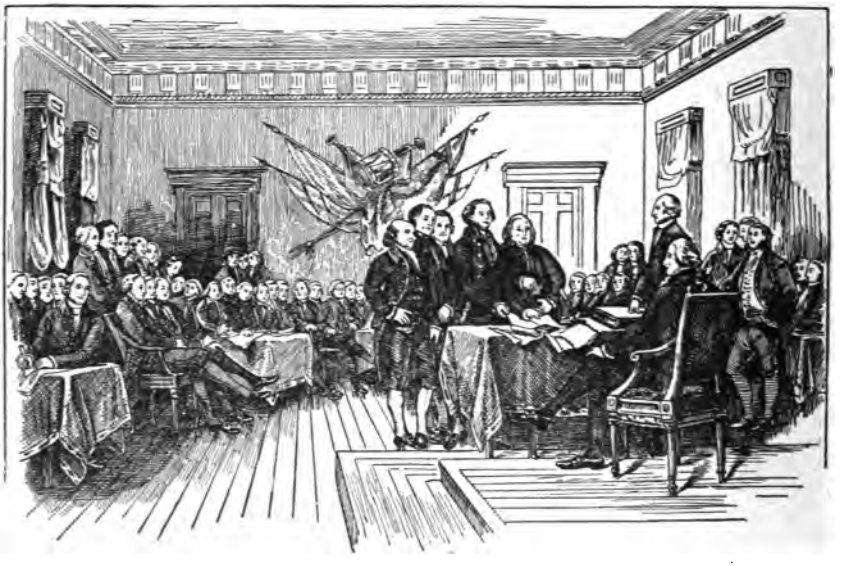
75. The Colonies Begin to Think About Separating From England.—At last the people saw that there was no use trying to get fair treatment from

Independence Hall.

England. They said, "If we cannot get along with England, we will try to get along without her!"

It was decided that each of the colonies should

send some men to hold meetings in Philadelphia. Meetings were held in Carpenters Hall and in the State House, now called Independence Hall, at Fifth and Chestnut Streets.

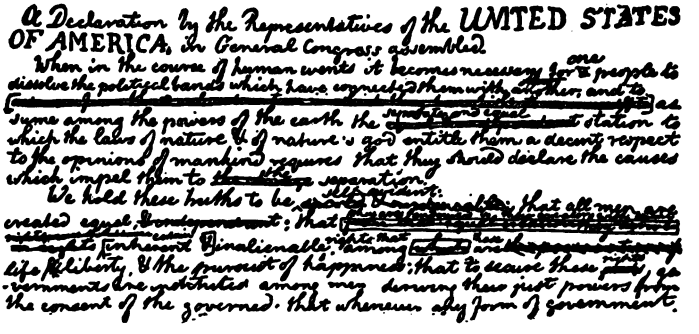


Signing the Declaration. (From an Old Print.)

76. Declaration of Independence.—In the State House on the Fourth of July, 1776, the Declaration of Independence was agreed upon. This famous paper was written by Thomas Jefferson, and signed by all those present at the meeting. It declared that the colonies were now independent. This meant that they no longer belonged to England, but were free and would rule themselves.

Instead of English colonies they now called themselves **The United States of America.**

77. How the People Received the News.—There was great joy among the people when they heard that the Declaration of Independence had been signed. Bells were rung, and bonfires were lighted. The Declaration was read to thousands of people and to the soldiers in the American army. When the people heard the news in New York they pulled


A Declaration by the Representatives of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in General Congress assembled.

When in the course of human events it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature & of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal, independent; that [illegible] rights [illegible] inalienable, among which are the preservation of life, liberty, & the pursuit of happiness; that to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. that whenever any form of government

Part of Declaration of Independence.
[In Jefferson's Hand-writing.]

down a leaden statue of the King. They melted it and made it into bullets.

78. The Colonies Ready to Fight.—The people knew that England would not let her colonies go without a hard fight to keep them. The Americans had stood the King's bad treatment long enough. They were ready to fight. Most of them felt as

Patrick Henry did. He said in a famous speech, "Give me liberty or give me death."

Pulling Down the Statue of George III.

79. Our Nation's Birthday—The Fourth of July.—The Fourth of July has been kept as a holiday ever since the Declaration of Independence was signed in 1776.

Patrick Henry.

Every boy and girl knows what it means to have a birthday party. On that day friends make them presents, and they have a jolly time playing games and eating good things.

The Fourth of July is the

birthday of the United States. The people all over the country have a holiday. Flags fly from public buildings and from many houses. Speeches are made, and the Declaration of Independence is read to crowds of people. Boys and girls enjoy themselves setting off fire works. It is the greatest American holiday.

CHAPTER XI.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

80. Washington Made Commander-in-Chief.—There had been some fighting between the American and English soldiers even before the Declaration of Independence was made.

After the fourth of July the Americans knew that a long, bloody war would have to be fought with England. They chose George Washington to be the leader of their army, or commander-in-chief.

George Washington is such a famous man in the history of our country that we should study the story of his life.

81. Washington's Boyhood.—George Washington was born in Virginia on February 22nd, 1732. His father died when George was only eleven years old. His mother was left to take care of him and four other children all younger than George.

To bring up these five little children without their father to help her must have been a hard task for Mrs. Washington. But she knew how to make them obey her and she taught them all to be respectful, orderly and truthful.

The stories of George's early life show how much he owed to the careful training that his mother gave him. If she had not been such a true and noble woman, we might never have heard of George Washington at all.

Washington and the Colt.

82. The Story of Washington and the Colt.—There is a story which shows how carefully his mother taught him to speak the truth.

There was a wild young colt on the farm. It had never been broken. It was large and beautiful and Mrs. Washington liked it better than any of her

horses. Almost everybody was afraid of the colt, but George made up his mind to tame it.

One day he got some playmates to help him catch the colt. He then slipped on the bit and bridle and jumped on the angry animal's back. Off they went, as fast as the colt could run. The colt tried hard to throw its rider. It grew wilder and wilder, but George held on tight. At last it made one great jump and fell down dead. The colt had burst a blood-vessel.

George knew that his mother would be very angry when she heard about the death of her colt. When the boys came in to breakfast she asked if her horses were being well taken care of. They all looked at each other, afraid to speak.

At last George said, "The colt is dead, Madam; I killed him." At first Mrs. Washington was very angry. He then told the whole story and his mother said, "I am sorry that the colt is dead, but I am glad my boy always speaks the truth."

83. School Days.—Washington studied hard at school. Some of his copy books have been kept to this day. They show how neat and orderly he was. In one of them there are over a hundred rules of conduct. Here are some of them:

"Think before you speak."

"Speak not evil of the absent for it is unjust."

"Eat not with greediness, neither find faut with what you eat."

Thinking about rules like these and trying to keep them helped to make Washington a great man.

George was a big strong boy for his age. People

Labor to keep alive in your breast
that little spark of celestial fire
called conscience.

Extract from Washington's Copy Book. Geo Washington

to-day show the spot where they say he threw a stone across the Rappahannock River. He was also a good runner and wrestler.

George was a leader among his playmates. When they played soldier he was generally captain. He was looked up to by the other boys and often settled their quarrels for them.

84. The Young Surveyor.—Washington left school when he was about 16 years of age. He learned how to measure land and did a great deal of this kind of work.

Travelling over the country he found out a great deal about the streams and forests and studied the

ways of animals. He also learned the habits of the Indians who were then living in Virginia.

85. Washington Sent on an Important Errand.—The governor of Virginia wanted to send an important message to a French fort on Lake Erie. This was hundreds of miles away. Although Washington was only twenty-one years old, the governor chose him to go on this errand.

Washington Surveying.

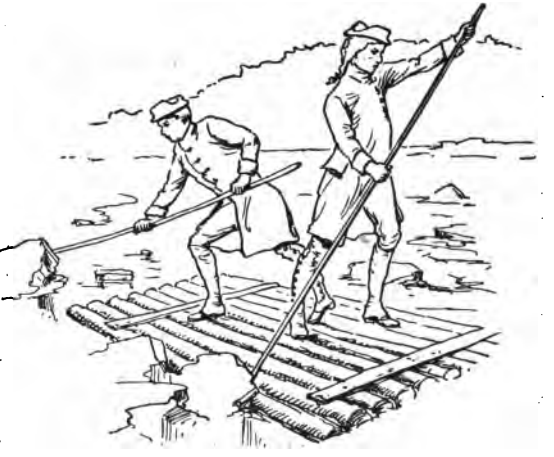
It was late in November when Washington and six others started off on their dangerous trip. They had a hard time getting to the French fort. At last they reached it, and Washington gave the message to the commander. When they received the answer, the party started on the journey back to Virginia.

86. The Dangerous Homeward Journey.—Washington was in a hurry to get the French commander's message back to the governor. He went ahead with one of the men. The others were left to

come on more slowly with the horses and baggage.

It was now winter and the weather was very cold. When Washington and his companion reached the Allegheny River it was partly frozen, and large blocks of ice were rushing down the stream. The only tool they had was a hatchet, and it took them all day to make a raft.

While crossing the stream the ice jammed against the raft, and Washington was thrown into the icy water. He managed to climb aboard the raft again. At last they reached an island where they were obliged to spend the night. What a terrible night that must have been! They had not even a fire to dry their wet clothing. Instead of a soft, warm bed they had only the frozen ground to lie upon.



Washington Crossing the Allegheny.

Next morning the river was frozen solid, and they were able to walk across.

At last they reached the governor's home, and Washington gave him the answer to his message.

The governor made Washington a Colonel in the army as a reward for his bravery.

87. The War with the French and Indians.—Soon after this a war broke out between the English and the French in America. England sent General Braddock with a large number of English soldiers or red-coats, as they were called, to drive the French off the land that England claimed as her own.

Washington was colonel of a Virginia regiment. He and his men joined Braddock's army.

In this war the Indians were helping the French. Braddock and his English soldiers did not know the Indians' way of fighting. Washington warned Braddock that the Indians were cunning and tricky. Instead of fighting face to face, as the English were used to doing, they would hide behind trees and rocks and lie in wait for their enemies.

88. Braddock's Defeat.—Braddock would not follow Washington's advice. He marched his army through the woods with banners flying and drums beating.

Suddenly the enemy fired a great volley of bullets and killed and wounded many of the English soldiers. Braddock's men formed in line to give battle, but did not know where to shoot, as the French and Indians could not be seen.

The Virginians were the only ones who knew

Defeat of Braddock. (From an Old Painting.)

what to do. They jumped behind trees and commenced to fight Indian fashion.

General Braddock and hundreds of his men were killed. Washington rode about on horseback giving orders to the men. Bullets tore through his clothing and horses were killed under him, but he escaped unhurt. It is strange that he was not killed. It seemed as though God was saving him to lead his country in the War for Independence.

George Washington.

89. General Wolfe and the Capture of Quebec.—The last battle of the French and Indian War was the taking of Quebec This city stood upon a high

bluff and was almost surrounded by water. It was thought that no army would be able to capture it.

General Wolfe was the leader of the English army. He discovered a rugged pathway leading to the top of the high cliff where the French had their army.

One night Wolfe's army quietly climbed up this pathway. The French were surprised next morning to see the English soldiers facing them.

In the battle that followed the French were beaten. Both General Wolfe and the French Commander Montcalm were killed. The capture of Quebec ended the war and made the English the masters of America.

90. Washington Leads the Americans in Their War for Freedom.—After the French and Indian War, Washington was the best known soldier in the colonies. When the trouble began with England he was chosen to command the American army.

He was commander-in-chief of the American armies all through the War for Independence. He was a brave general, and his men loved and respected him. The war lasted eight years. At last England gave up the fight and the United States became a free nation.

Washington now went back to Mt. Vernon to live in peace and quietness in his country home.

91. Washington Chosen President.—Washington had done great things for his country, but the people needed him again. They chose him to be

the first President of the United States. Four years later they chose him again.

He ruled the country wisely, and the people wanted to elect him a third time. He thought no man should be President more than two terms, so he refused to serve again.

Washington at Mount Vernon.

92. Death of Washington.—A few years later he died at Mt. Vernon. He is often spoken of as the "Father of his Country." It has been well said of him, that "he was first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

CHAPTER XII.

PAUL REVERE'S RIDE AND THE BATTLE OF LEXINGTON.

93. Minute Men.—When the news of the Boston tea-party reached England, the King sent General Gage and a number of soldiers to Boston. This looked like war, and the Americans got ready to fight. As they did not know when the fighting might begin they formed companies of men who were to be ready at a minute's notice. These were called "Minute men."

Minute Man.

94. General Gage Plans to Capture the American Stores.—The Americans now collected all the powder, ball, guns, and cannon that they could get.

General Gage heard that they had stored some of these things in Concord, a little town near Boston. He made up his mind to send soldiers there to capture or destroy the powder and guns belonging to the Americans.

General Gage tried to keep his plan secret, but some Americans found it out. One of these was a young man named Paul Revere.

95. Paul Revere's Ride.—On the night that the British were going to start, Paul Revere stood ready with a good horse to gallop through the country and rouse the people. A friend kept watch in a high church tower in Boston on the other side of the river. He was to hang out lanterns as a signal to Paul Revere and other riders, to tell them which way the British were going.

Paul Revere's Ride.

As soon as they saw the signal lights they mounted their horses and galloped through the country in every direction. As they rode along they shouted to the startled people, "The British are coming."

Soon the news spread through the country. The

"Minute men" came running out. When the British did come they found the Americans waiting for them.

96. The Battle of Lexington.—At Lexington, on the road to Concord, there was some fighting between the British soldiers and a small company of "Minute

Battle of Lexington.

men." This was the first real fighting of the war. Some Americans were killed.

The British then marched on to Concord. Here they destroyed some of the powder and shot, and also some flour belonging to the Americans. They also

set fire to the court-house. The British soldiers then began their march back to Boston.

Meanwhile the whole country had been aroused. "Minute men" and farmers were pouring in from all sides.

All along the road the Americans fired at the red-

Concord Bridge To-day.

coats from behind walls and trees and haystacks. More than three hundred of the British were killed.

This fight is generally called the Battle of Lexington. It was really the beginning of the War for Independence.

CHAPTER XIII.

THE AMERICAN ARMY AT VALLEY FORGE.

97. The British Capture Philadelphia.—As the war went on, England sent many generals and thousands of soldiers to fight the Americans. Washington had only a small army, and it was poorly clothed and fed.

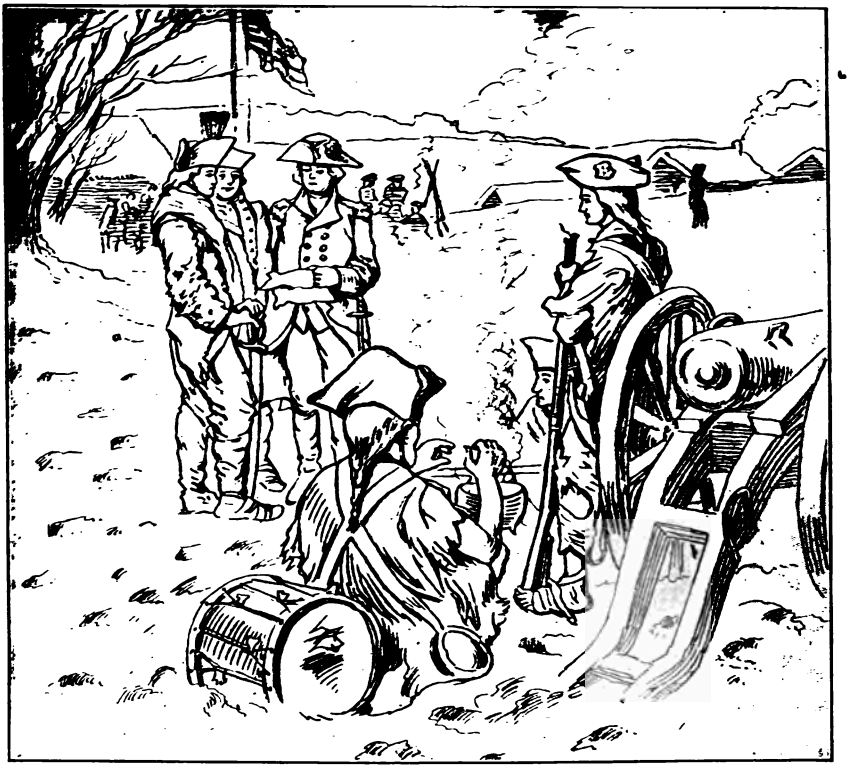
A number of severe battles were fought. At last the British army entered Philadelphia. Washington's men fought bravely, but they could not keep the British out of the city.

98. Washington Retreats to Valley Forge.—When the British entered Philadelphia, Washington led his army to Valley Forge, about twenty miles away. Here they spent the winter.

There were no houses for the soldiers, and the weather was too cold for them to live in tents.

Washington set the men to work to build log houses. These were small and rough, with only the bare ground for a floor. A dozen men were crowded into each log hut. These rude houses were poor places to spend a bitter winter season.

99. Sufferings of the Americans.—The winter was a very cold one, and the ground was covered with snow.



Valley Forge.

The clothing of the men was torn and ragged. Some of them had worn-out shoes. Others had no shoes at all, but used pieces of blanket instead.

Their feet became bruised and cut, and often left blood marks upon the snow.

Food was very scarce. The soldiers did not have enough to eat for themselves, and they could get hardly anything for their horses. Many of these faithful animals starved to death, and the men had to do their work. They harnessed themselves to sleds, and dragged heavy loads over the snow to their log huts.

100. How Washington Helped His Men.—Some of the farmers nearby had been selling grain and other provisions to the British army in Philadelphia. Washington made them stop this. He forced them to supply his hungry soldiers with food.

Many of the men became discouraged and wanted to desert. Washington did his best to cheer up his down-hearted soldiers. In spite of their terrible sufferings he managed to keep the army together.

If Washington had not been a great general, loved by his men, he could not have done this.

101. The British in Philadelphia.—While the sick and half-starved American army were suffering at Valley Forge, the well-fed British soldiers were enjoying themselves in Philadelphia. They had good houses to live in, and had jolly times in the Quaker city. They passed the winter like a pleasant holiday.

102. Baron Steuben Helps to Drill the American Army.—Luckily, toward the end of the winter a great

drill master from Germany came to help the Americans at Valley Forge. He was Baron Steuben.

Steuben Drilling American Soldiers.

Washington got him to drill the American army. Steuben was a good teacher, and the soldiers learned their lessons well. They soon gave up their careless habits, and learned to obey orders, to stand up straight and to march in good order.

This drilling was just what the soldiers had needed. When spring came, Washington had a good fighting army in spite of the hard winter they had passed.

CHAPTER XIV.

BETSY ROSS AND THE AMERICAN FLAG.

103. Our Flag.—All American boys and girls know their country's flag. It has thirteen stripes (seven red and six white), one for each of the first thirteen states. In the corner it has forty-eight white stars on a blue field. There is a star for every state in the Union. Whenever a new state is admitted to the Union another star is added to the flag.

104. Flags of the Colonies.—But we did not always have this beautiful flag. When the thirteen colonies belonged to England, the Union Jack or English flag was their flag also. Besides this, each colony had a flag or banner of its own. So there were many different flags in the colonies.

Rattlesnake Flag.

105. First Flags in the American Army.—When the fighting began between England and her colonies there were about a dozen different kinds of flags carried in the American army.

On some of the flags there was a picture of a

rattlesnake with thirteen rattles. Under the rattlesnake there were the words, "**Don't tread on me.**"


Pine Tree Flag.

The troops from some of the northern colonies carried a flag with the picture of a pine tree on it.

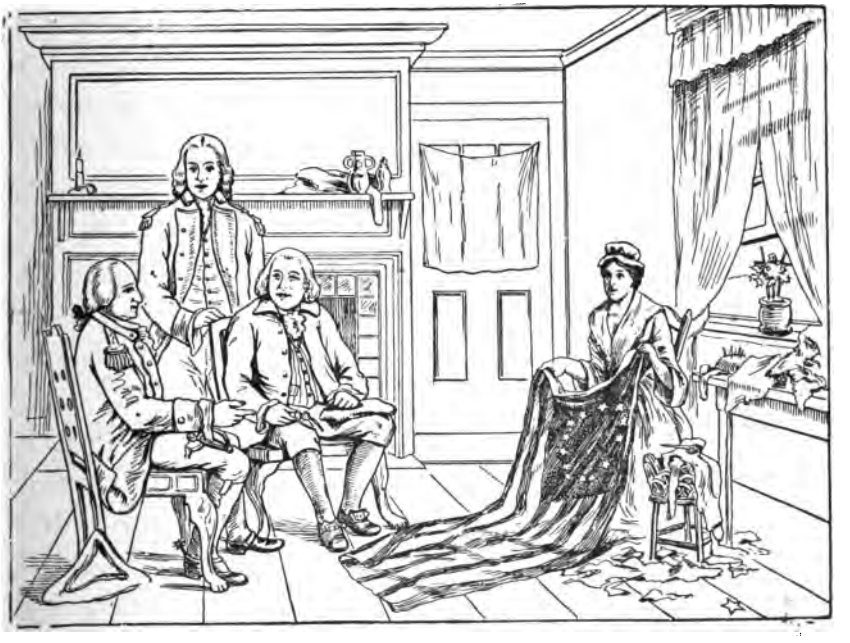
106. The American Flag Adopted.—As the war went on, Washington wanted to have one kind of flag for the whole army. The flag which was to stand for the United States on land and sea was agreed upon June 14th, 1777, in the State House in Philadelphia. This was about two years after the war began.

This flag was just like our flag today except that it had only thirteen stars instead of forty-eight. The stars were arranged in a circle.

107. The Story of Betsy Ross.—The first American flag was made by a woman who lived in Philadelphia. Her name was Betsy Ross. She was famous for her good sewing. She used to make flags for sea-captains. It is said that once she made a fine ruffled shirt for Washington.

When the new United States flag was adopted, Betsy Ross was asked to make one. The story is told that Washington and some other gentlemen called to see Betsy Ross about making the flag. When they asked her if she would do it she answered, "I do not know whether I can, but I'll try."

Washington thought that a six-pointed star should be used in the flag. Betsy Ross thought a five-pointed star would be better because it would be different from the stars on the English flag.



Betsy Ross and the Flag Committee.

"Mrs. Ross," said Washington, "don't you think that would be too hard to make?"

"Not at all," said Betsy. "It is very easy."

She then folded a piece of paper and gave it one quick snip with her scissors. When she unfolded

the paper, she had a perfect five-pointed star. Washington and the other men were greatly pleased. They told Betsy to use the five-pointed stars and finish the flag as soon as she could.

108. Betsy Ross's House.—The house in which Betsy Ross lived and made the first flag is still standing. It is No. 239 Arch St., Philadelphia. It is an old-fashioned little house, two and a half stories high. Many people visit it every year to see the house where the first flag was made.

Ross House and First American Flag.

109. Flag Day.—It was on the 14th of June, 1777, that our country's flag was adopted. On this account, the 14th of June is now called "Flag Day."

In Philadelphia and in many other places, Flag Day is celebrated every year. Flags wave over our school

houses and other public buildings, and from the windows of many homes.

In Philadelphia hundreds of school children visit Betsy Ross's home on this day. The story of the flag is told in the schools, and the "Star-Spangled Banner" and other patriotic songs are sung.

CHAPTER XV.

THE STORY OF LYDIA DARRAH.

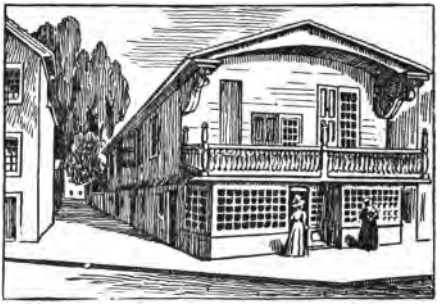
110. American Women During the War.—When we study about the War for Independence it seems as though everything was done by the men. We must not forget that while the men were fighting in the army, their wives and families were left at home.

The women had to work very hard to take care of the children without the help of their husbands. Many men who went to the war were killed in battle. Their poor wives and children never saw them again.

111. Lydia Darrah.—The women as well as the men were anxious to win the fight against England. There was one woman in Philadelphia who helped the Americans at a time when they greatly needed help. Her name was Lydia Darrah.

Lydia was the wife of a Quaker school teacher. She used to nurse the sick. Many people in Philadelphia knew and loved her, because she was so kind and tender hearted.

112. Meetings Held in Lydia Darrah's House.—When the British army was spending the winter in Philadelphia some of the officers held meetings in a back room in Lydia Darrah's house. They chose this room because they could meet there quietly and make secret plans without fear of being disturbed.



Lydia Darrah's House.

113. Lydia Overhears the British Plans.—One afternoon they told Lydia Darrah to have the room ready by seven o'clock that evening. One of the officers said to her:

"Be sure to have your family go to bed early. When we are ready to go, I shall let you know so that you can put out the candles."

Lydia thought this was a strange order but said she would do as she was told. She was afraid the British officers were getting ready to make a secret attack on the American army at Valley Forge.

The Darrah family went to bed early as Lydia had promised. She was so worried that she did not undress. She threw herself on the bed but did not go to sleep.

When all was still, Lydia slipped off her shoes and went quietly to the door of the meeting room. She could hear the British officers talking over their plans. She heard them say that they were going to slip out quietly at night to surprise and capture Washington's army. Lydia had heard enough. She crept softly back to bed.

In a little while one of the officers knocked on her door. She pretended to be asleep. After he had knocked again, she got up, put on her shoes, and came to the door yawning, as if only half awake.

When the British officers left the house Lydia put out the lights. She went back to bed but could not sleep. She made up her mind that she would keep the secret even from her family and friends. She meant to let Washington know as soon as possible.

114. Washington Warned of His Danger.—Early in the morning, Lydia Darrah told her husband that she must go to the mill to buy some flour.

The flour mill was five miles away. At last she reached it and left her sack to be filled. She then hurried on.

Luckily she soon met a scout from Washington's army. She told him her secret and hurried back to the mill for her flour. The scout rode off as fast as he could to warn Washington of the danger.

115. The British Plan Fails.—The British carried out their plans as far as they could. They marched off quietly in the darkness.

At last they reached the place where they expected to surprise Washington and his men. But they did not catch them napping. They found the army ready for a fight. Their plans had failed, and they marched back disgusted.

Lydia Darrah and the Scout.

They wondered how their plans had been found out. Of course Lydia Darrah knew but she said nothing.

CHAPTER XVI.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN.

116. How Franklin Helped to Win Independence.—There were some Americans who did not join the army, but who helped their country in other ways. Benjamin Franklin was one of these men. He was nearly seventy years old when the war began, but he was not too old to work for his country.

Benjamin Franklin.

He helped to write the Declaration of Independence and he was not afraid to sign it.

He went to France to get the King to help America in her fight against England. Franklin was well liked by the King and people of France. He got the King to lend the Americans

a large sum of money, and to send over warships and soldiers to fight on the American side.

117. Franklin's Autobiography.—Franklin did many other great things in his long and useful life. He wrote a book in which he told the story of his life. You will enjoy reading this book when you are older. Here we can tell you only a little of the story of Franklin's life.

118. The Boyhood of Franklin.—He was born in Boston, about two hundred years ago. He had many brothers and sisters for he was the youngest of seventeen children.

As a boy, he was a leader among his playmates. The shore around the pond where they went fishing was low and swampy. There was a pile of stones lying nearby where a house was being built.

One evening when the workmen had gone home, Franklin got his playmates to help carry the stones and build a little wharf.

When the workmen found out what had been done, they complained to Franklin's father. Benjamin made the excuse that the wharf was useful. It was needed to keep the boys from getting their feet wet. His father corrected him, and said, "Nothing is useful that is not honest."

119. Franklin Runs Away to Philadelphia.—Franklin worked for an older brother who had a

printing shop. His brother gave him poor pay and sometimes beat him cruelly. Franklin stood this as long as he could, but at last ran away.

He was now seventeen years old. Although Franklin had been getting very small wages he had saved a little money. After a long and weary journey partly on foot and partly by boat, he reached Philadelphia. He had spent nearly all his money.

Franklin walking up Market Street.

He landed from the row-boat at Market St. wharf on a Sunday morning. He was tired, wet and hungry. The first thing he did was to go into a bakery shop and buy three big, puffy rolls. His pockets were stuffed with some clothes he had brought with him. So he walked up Market Street with a roll under each arm and eating the other one. He must have looked very funny as he tramped along.

A young girl standing in a doorway laughed at him as he passed by. Her name was Deborah Read. Strange to say, some years after, she became his wife.

120. Franklin as a Printer.—Franklin soon got work in a printer's office in Philadelphia. It was not long before he had a printing shop of his own.

He published a newspaper and a famous almanac. It was called "Poor Richard's Almanac." Franklin filled the almanac with his wise sayings. Almost everybody to-day knows some of these sayings:

"Early to bed, early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise."

"Keep thy shop, and thy shop will keep thee."

"Heaven helps them that help themselves."

Franklin's Kite Experiment.

121. Franklin's Kite.—Franklin did many other useful things. He studied about electricity. He thought that lightning and electricity were the same

thing. To see whether he was right he made a kite out of a silk handkerchief. He fastened a pointed piece of wire to the top of the kite to draw the lightning to it.

Statue of Franklin.

One stormy night he flew his kite. He tied a key to the string and held the string by a silk thread. As a thunder cloud passed over the kite, he held his knuckles near the key. Sparks jumped from the key to his knuckle. He had proved that lightning was only a kind of electricity.

All over the world people began to talk about Franklin and his kite.

122. Franklin Invents the Lightning-Rod.—Franklin learned more than this from his kite. The pointed wire on it had drawn the lightning from the clouds. Why not use a long pointed wire, thought he, to save a house from being struck by light-

ning. So he invented the lightning rod. This made him more famous than ever.

123. Other Things That Franklin Did.—It would take a large book to tell all that Franklin did. There were only open fire-places in those days, so Franklin invented a stove.

The Philadelphia Library was started by him; so was the University of Pennsylvania.

He taught the people better ways to pave and light the streets.

He started the first fire-engine company and the first hospital in Philadelphia.

We have already learned how Franklin helped his country during the War for Independence. When the war was over, Franklin was one of the men who made the treaty of peace between England and the United States.

124. Franklin Honored by the World.—Many of the things Franklin did were useful to the whole world as well as to his own country.

In 1906, two hundred years after he was born, his birthday was celebrated in both America and Europe. The world does not forget men like Benjamin Franklin.

CHAPTER XVII.

STEPHEN GIRARD.

125. The War of 1812.—About thirty years after the War for Independence, another war broke out between England and the United States. It is generally called the war of 1812 as it began in that year.

The most important battles of this year were fought at sea. England had so many big warships that she was called Mistress of the Sea. The United States had a very small navy, but the American sailors were very good fighters. Our warships won many battles.

126. The British Capture Washington. — England had so many more warships than the United States that they were able to do a great deal of harm to the towns along the sea coast.

In the summer of 1814 the British landed from some of their ships in Chesapeake Bay. They marched to the city of Washington, the capital of the United States. They captured the city and set fire to many of the public buildings. The American army had lost some other land battles. It began to look bad for our country.

127. Stephen Girard Lends Money to the United States.—The government was now badly in need of money for the Army and Navy. It tried to borrow a large sum from the people, but nearly everybody was afraid to lend any money.

There was one man who was willing to help. His name was Stephen Girard. He was one of the richest men in the United States. He loaned the government nearly five million dollars. Without this money the United States might not have been able to carry on the war.

Statue of Stephen Girard.

128. Stephen Girard's Early Life.—Stephen Girard had made his money by hard work and careful saving. The story of his life is interesting. He was born in France. As a boy he did not have a very happy time. His step-mother treated

him badly and his father was very strict with him. Stephen wanted to leave home and go to sea.

He went on a ship as cabin boy when he was only fourteen years old. He worked hard and became a good sailor. He was made captain of a ship when he was only twenty-three years old.

129. Girard Becomes an American Citizen. He Grows Rich.—During the War for Independence Girard was captain of an American trading ship. He sailed up the Delaware River to escape being captured by British warships. He landed at Philadelphia. Here he sold his ship and opened a grocery store.

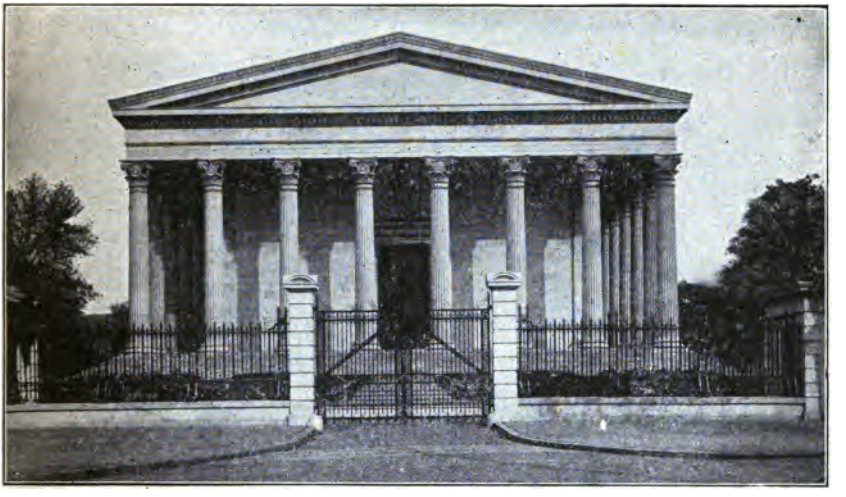
Stephen Girard now became an American citizen, and lived in Philadelphia the rest of his life. He worked hard and saved his money. He became a ship builder and a great merchant. His ships traded in all parts of the world. He grew very rich.

130. Girard a Kind-hearted Man.—Stephen Girard worked hard himself and made his servants and the people he employed work hard. Some thought he was a harsh master, but he really had a kind heart. He was fond of little children, and was kind to animals.

When hundreds of people in Philadelphia were dying of yellow fever, it was hard to get anyone willing to nurse the sick. Most people who could afford it, left the city. But Stephen Girard did not

run away. He gave his money and risked his own life to save the sick.

131. Girard College.—When Stephen Girard died he left about six million dollars for a home where poor orphan boys might be taken care of and educated. This home is called Girard College. It is in Phila-



Main Building, Girard College.

delphia. It has large grounds and many buildings. There is a high stone wall all around it. Almost two thousand boys live there now.

There is a fine statue of Stephen Girard near one of the entrances to City Hall, in Philadelphia. It was given to the city by some of the men who were educated in Girard College.

CHAPTER XVIII.

THE STORY OF SLAVERY.

132. How the Slaves were Treated.—When we were studying the story of Jamestown, we learned that about 300 years ago a number of negroes were brought to Virginia. They were not hired as servants, but were sold to the white settlers as slaves.

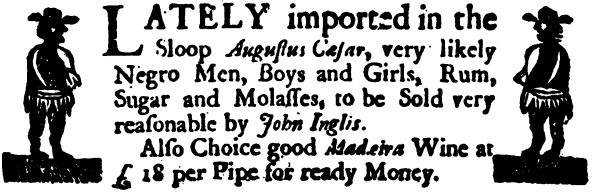
Slaves were owned by their masters just as a horse or dog is. The slaves did not get wages for their work. They were fed and clothed by their masters, and were given rough cabins or huts to live in. They were bought and sold, or exchanged by their owners just as horses are today.

Many of the slaves had kind owners, but some had cruel masters, who beat them and made them work too hard.

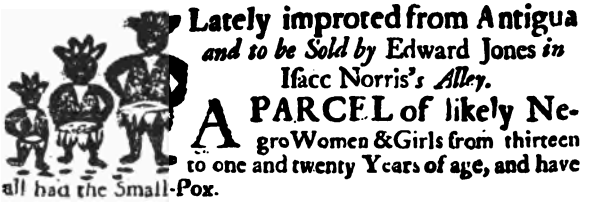
133. How the Slaves were Brought to America.—Where did these slaves come from? They were brought from Africa. They were not even asked whether they wanted to leave their homes. They were captured or were bought by the slave traders from the chiefs of the negro tribes.

The slaves were huddled together like animals in

the hold of a ship. They did not know where they were going nor what was to become of them. When they reached America the slave-traders sold them to the white settlers.


LATELY imported in the Sloop *Augustus Cæsar*, very likely Negro Men, Boys and Girls, Rum, Sugar and Molasses, to be Sold very reasonable by *John Inglis*.
Also Choice good *Madeira* Wine at £18 per Pipe for ready Money.


To be SOLD,
BY *Benjamin Pender* at *Dennis Ratchf.d's* in *Market-street*, near the Sign of the *Indian* King, several Negroe Men, Women and Boys, at a very reasonable Price for Bread, Flower, &c.


Lately improted from Antigua *and to be Sold by* Edward Jones *in* Isacc Norris's *Alley*.
A PARCEL of likely Negro Women & Girls from thirteen to one and twenty Years of age, and have all had the Small-Pox.

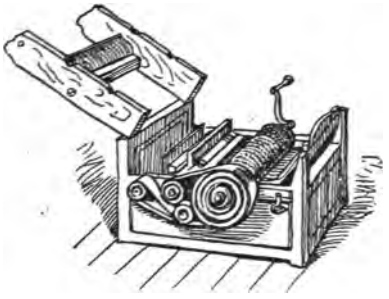
Old Advertisement of Slaves for Sale.

Thousands of negro slaves were brought to America in this way. By the time the War for Independence began there were slaves in all the colonies. Some were used as house servants, but most of them worked upon the farms.

134. The Invention of the Cotton Gin.—Soon after the United States became free from England, something happened that made the people of the southern states want more slaves.

A young man named Eli Whitney invented the cotton gin. This was a machine for separating the

seed from the raw cotton of the cotton plant. Before Whitney invented the cotton gin, this work had to be done by hand. It was very slow and tedious. It took a man a whole day to pick the seeds from a pound of raw cotton. With the help of the cotton gin, the seeds could be cleaned out of 1000 pounds of cotton in a day.



First Cotton Gin.

Much more cotton was then raised and the people of the south thought they needed the slaves in the cotton fields more than ever.

135. People of the North Against Slavery.—Most people living in the northern states thought it was wrong to keep slaves. They believed that every man should be free, no matter what the color of his skin was. The people of the south needed the negroes on their cotton plantations and most of them were not willing to set the slaves free.

The states in the north where they had no slaves, were called free states. The states in the south were called slave states.

The slaves were sometimes treated so cruelly that they would run away. The people of the north would then hide them in their houses and help them

to escape. Some of the runaway slaves had deep scars upon their bodies which showed how terribly they had been beaten.

Picking Cotton.

The northern people were angry because they thought the slaves were treated so badly. The southern people were angry because the people of the north helped the slaves to run away.

136. "Uncle Tom's Cabin."—A northern woman named Mrs. Stowe, wrote a book called "Uncle Tom's Cabin." It was all about the slaves and their cruel masters.

Hundreds of thousands of people read this book. Nearly everybody was talking about "Uncle Tom," "Topsy" and "little Eva." The northern people who read the book now felt quite sure that all

slavery was wrong. They were ready to do almost anything to free the slaves.

137. War Between the North and the South. The Slaves Set Free. — There were many bitter quarrels between the north and south about slavery. The southern states wanted to leave the Union and have a government of their own. They thought they had the right to do this. They were afraid the United States Government would make them set the slaves free. The northern states did not believe any one had the right to break up the Union.

Harriet Beecher Stowe.

At last war broke out between the north and south. It was a long and bloody struggle. After four years fighting, the terrible Civil war came to an end. The south was defeated, and the Union was saved.

Soon after the close of the war, a law was passed which made all the slaves free.

CHAPTER XIX.

THE STORY OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

138. President Lincoln.—In telling the story of slavery and the Civil War we did not mention the name of the man who did more than anybody else to give the slaves their freedom. This great man was Abraham Lincoln. He was President of the United States during the war.

Abraham Lincoln.

Lincoln's life should be studied by every school boy. It shows how even a poor boy, by hard work and honesty, may reach the highest position in our land.

139. Early Life of Lincoln.—Abraham Lincoln was born about one hundred years ago on an out-of-the-way little farm in Kentucky. The house his parents lived in was only a rough shanty.

Lincoln's Early Home.

When Abraham was seven years old the family moved to Indiana. Here they chopped down trees and built a log cabin to live in. Little Abe helped all he could.

Their furniture was home-made. It was rudely put together out of logs and sticks. On the floor in a corner of the room was a big bag stuffed with leaves. This was Abe's bed.

140. Lincoln at School. How He Taught Himself.—There was a little log school house a long way from Abe's home. It was kept open only a few months of the year. Abe went to this school as

Lincoln Learning to use an Axe.

often as he could. Here he learned to read and write.

Schools in those days were not very good, and the teachers themselves did not know much.

Abe studied hard at home and learned more there than he did in school. He did not have paper and pens to work with so he wrote upon a big wooden shovel, using a piece of charcoal for a pencil. He had to clean the shovel off when he needed a fresh place to write on.

Lincoln Studying at Night.

During the day he worked hard upon the little farm. He studied at night by the light of the burning logs in the open fireplace.

141. The Books Lincoln Read.—Abe had very few books, but he read them until he knew whole pages by heart. One of these books was a story of the life of George Washington. It was given to Abe as pay for work that he had done upon a neighbor's farm.

Some of the other books he read and studied were

"Robinson Crusoe," "History of the United States," "Æsop's Fables," "Pilgrim's Progress," and the Bible.

Young Abraham Lincoln soon became known as the smartest boy in the neighborhood.

Lincoln Splitting Rails.

142. Lincoln the Rail Splitter.—Young Lincoln grew fast. When he was nineteen years old he was six feet four inches tall. His out door life made him strong and healthy. He could lift as much as two ordinary men.

He was a fine woodsman. He used to chop down trees and split logs into rails for rail fences. He earned his living for a while as a farm-hand and rail splitter.

143. Honest Abe.—Lincoln was noted not only for his size and strength. He also became famous for his honesty.

When he was twenty-one years old, he got a position to tend a country store. He treated the

customers well and soon became known for his fair dealing.

One time a woman by mistake paid him a few cents too much. That evening, after the store was closed, Lincoln walked all the way to the woman's house, a distance of three miles, to pay the money back to her. This was only one of the many things that Lincoln did that made the people call him "Honest Abe."

144. Lincoln Becomes a Lawyer.—Lincoln had to work hard for a living, but he always found time to study. After a while he began to study law-books, as he wanted to be a lawyer.

Before he was thirty years old, he had been elected to the Illinois Legislature—the place where the laws are made for the state, and he was practicing law for a living.

People were anxious to hire him as their lawyer because they knew he was honest and they could believe what he said.

145. Lincoln's Kind Heart. The Story of the Pig.—The people liked Lincoln not only because he was honest, but also because he was kind hearted. He was always willing to lend a helping hand to anyone in trouble. He was kind even to dumb animals. The story of Lincoln and the pig is often told.

One day as Lincoln was driving to the court-house

he heard a loud squealing. Looking around he noticed a pig which had fallen into a mud hole. The pig was trying hard to get out, but fell back every time. Lincoln felt like helping the poor animal but he was wearing a new suit of clothes, and he was afraid of spoiling it.

Lincoln and the Pig.

He drove on, but the thought of the poor pig bothered him. At last he went back and pulled the pig out of the mud hole. He had to go to court that day with his clothes all spattered with mud. But his mind was at rest.

146. Lincoln Elected President.—Abraham Lincoln became so famous as a lawyer that the people sent him to Congress, the place where laws are made for the whole nation.

At this time the whole country was excited about slavery. Lincoln made many great speeches against slavery. He was now so famous that the Republican party wanted him to be the President of the United States. In 1860 he was elected President.

The poor rail-splitter had at last reached the

highest position that any man in this country can hold.

147. Lincoln Saves the Union.—Soon after Lincoln was elected President, the great Civil War broke out between the north and south.

The people of the south wanted to have a separate government of their own. But Lincoln thought that the Union should not be broken and that it was his duty to hold the United States together.

The President is commander-in-chief of the army and navy. During the four terrible years of this bloody war, Lincoln proved himself to be a great and powerful leader. He always seemed to know the best thing to do.

148. Lincoln Frees the Slaves.—During the war Lincoln set free all the slaves in the states that were fighting against the Union. After the close of the war all the rest of the slaves were set free.

Lincoln had saved the Union and rid our country of slavery.

149. The Death of Abraham Lincoln.—The war had hardly ended when a terrible thing happened. While President Lincoln was sitting in a theater quietly watching the play, he was suddenly shot through the head by a man named Booth.

The murderer thought that in this way the south could get revenge for its defeat. Booth was shot

Statue of Lincoln, Fairmount Park, Philadelphia.

by soldiers while he was trying to make his escape.

The whole country, south as well as north, mourned the death of President Lincoln. Even those who did not agree with him loved him for his kindness of heart and his great honesty.

Next to Washington, many people think Abraham Lincoln was the greatest of Americans.

CHAPTER XX.

MEMORIAL DAY.

150. Memorial Day and What it Means.—In almost every state in the Union there is a holiday called Memorial Day. This holiday is set apart to honor the memory of the soldiers who fought in the civil war.

In the north, Memorial Day is kept on May 30th. In the south it is ten days earlier, May 20th. Spring is then at its height. The weather is usually warm and pleasant, the grass is green, and the flowers are in bloom.

151. At the Soldiers' Graves.—On Memorial Day, companies of soldiers parade to the cemeteries where their former comrades lie buried. Each soldier's grave is marked with a little flag. Bands play solemn music. Speeches are made telling about the brave deeds of the soldiers. Prayers are said, and muskets are fired in salute over the soldiers' graves.

The most beautiful part of Memorial Day services is the placing of flowers upon the graves of the soldiers. Great crowds of people attend the services

in the cemeteries and help to decorate the graves. This is the reason this holiday was at first called Decoration Day. But Memorial Day is the better name, because the services are held in memory of the dead soldiers.

152. Memorial Day Exercises in the Schools.—In most cities, schools are closed on Memorial Day, so that the children may also help to decorate the graves.

The day before the holiday, old soldiers sometimes visit the schools and make speeches to the pupils. They tell them interesting stories about the battles they were in and what they themselves saw during the Civil War. Old time war songs and other patriotic songs are sung by the children.

In many schools, flowers are brought by the pupils to be used in decorating the soldiers' graves. Sometimes several wagon loads of flowers are taken from a single school.

153. How Memorial Day Began.—The first Memorial Day was held May 30, 1868, three years after the close of the Civil War.

A society had been formed by many of the soldiers who had fought for the Union during this war. This society was called the Grand Army of the Republic.

General John A. Logan was chosen as the head of the G. A. R. He sent out an order for the first Memorial Day to the members of the G. A. R. in

all parts of the country. Afterwards in the different states, Memorial Day was made a legal holiday.

It is said that a German soldier in the Union army first suggested Memorial Day. He wrote a letter to one of General Logan's officers, telling him of the custom in Germany of decorating the soldiers' graves every spring. He thought it would be a good idea to have this beautiful custom in America. General Logan also thought this a beautiful way to honor the dead; so he issued the order for the first Memorial Day.

General Logan.

154. What Memorial Day Teaches.—We should all be thankful that we have Memorial Day. We can learn many good lessons from it. It calls to our memory the noble actions of the soldiers who risked their lives for the sake of their country.

It helps to teach us that we also should love our country, and be ready to help it whenever we are called upon to do so. In war times we may have to fight for our country's sake and even die for it. In times of peace we can serve our country by being good citizens, and by leading honest, upright lives.

CHAPTER XXI.

OLD WAYS AND NEW.

155. Our Times Better Than the "Good Old Times."—We often hear about "the good old times." Perhaps if we had to live as people did in those days we should not find them so pleasant. We are sure that we can do many things better and more quickly to-day than people could in olden times.

Old-time Well.

A poor man to-day can live more comfortably than a rich man could in the olden times. He does not have to go to a well or pump to get water. All he has to do is to turn on a spigot in his house.

In the daily newspapers he can read what is happening in all parts of the world.

When the great earthquake destroyed nearly the whole city of San Francisco, the news was printed all over the world the same day. In a very short

time railroad trains and steamships were loaded with food, clothing, tents and bedding, and hurried to the relief of the homeless people. If such a thing had happened in the olden days when there was no telegraph nor railroad, thousands of people would have died for want of help.

We will now learn about some of the changes that have been made in the last two hundred years.

Open Fireplace and Spinning-wheel.

156. Heating.—In colonial days, stoves were hardly ever seen. Most of the houses had large, open fireplaces. The logs burning in the fire-

place made a cheerful blaze, but they did not heat the room well. Most of the heat went up the chimney.

The open fireplace was also used for cooking. The pot or kettle was hung upon an iron crane that swung over the burning wood.


Hand Printing Press.

The Franklin stove, invented by Benjamin Franklin, was one of the first used. For a long time, only wood was burned in the stoves. The first load of hard coal was brought to Philadelphia about one hundred years ago. It was some years before people learned how to use coal. To-day coal is burned in almost every home for cooking and heating.

Many buildings nowadays are heated in better ways. Steam or hot water is sent through pipes to radiators in all parts of the house. How different from the log fires of olden times!

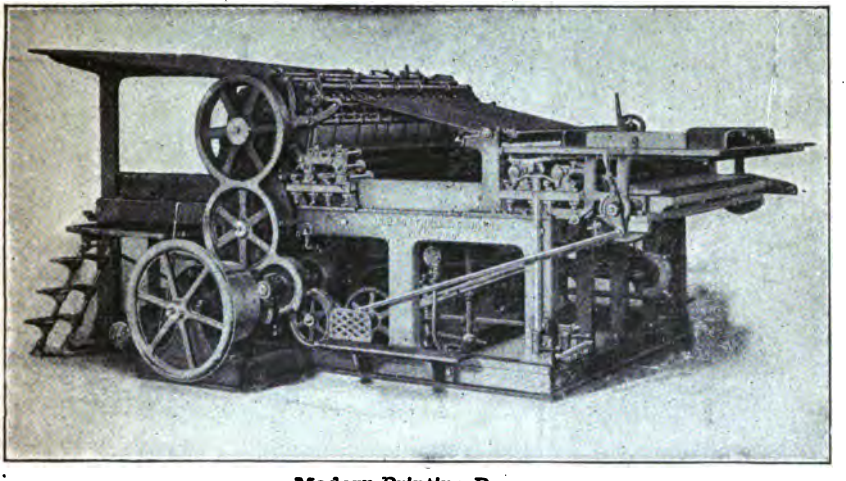

Old Way of Getting a Light.

157. Lighting.—In colonial days they did not have gas or electricity for lighting. On winter evenings the blazing logs of the open fireplace gave light as well as warmth.

Candles and lamps were also used. Whale oil was burned in the lamps. There were no matches. Fire was started with the old-fashioned tinder-box, flint and steel.

The streets and roads were very dark. People had to carry lanterns at night.

Millions of matches are now used every year.



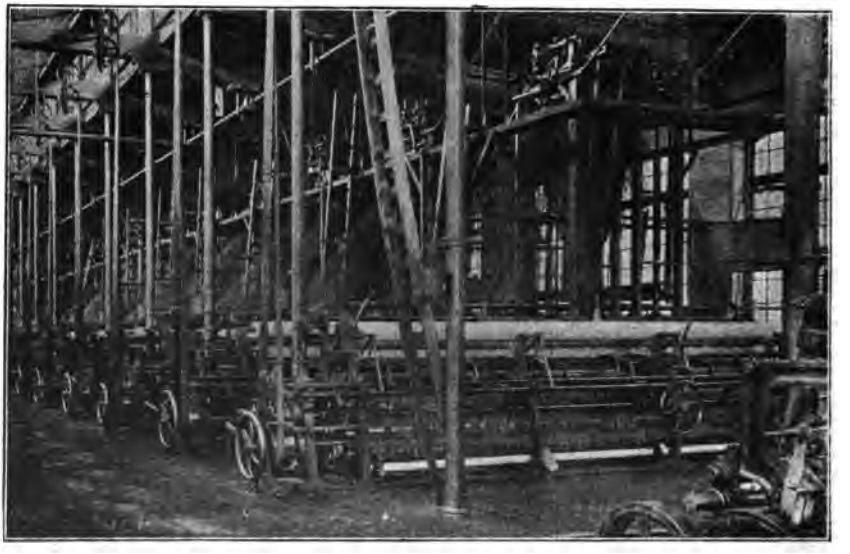
Modern Printing Press.

We would not know how to get along without them. We still sometimes use candles and lamps, but most of our lighting is done by gas and electricity.

City streets are lighted brightly at night by large electric lights. There is no longer any need of carrying lanterns, as there was years ago.

158. Machinery.—In olden times almost every-

thing was made by hand. To-day almost everything is made by machinery. Of course things can be made much faster by machinery. To make a pin by hand would take a long time. To-day there is a machine that will turn out thousands of pins in a



Interior of a Mill.

very short time, all polished, pointed, and placed neatly in rows in paper packages, ready to be sold.

Newspapers and books used to be printed by means of hand presses. It was slow, hard work. Benjamin Franklin used a hand press.

To-day steam presses turn out books and papers faster than a man can count them. We wonder what

Benjamin Franklin would think if he could see a big steam press printing, cutting, folding, and counting the large newspapers of to-day. He would probably feel like praising the good **new** times instead of the "good old times."

In the old days there was a spinning-wheel in almost every home. The women spun the wool into thread, and the cloth was woven by hand. Men dressed in coarse, homespun clothes in those days. To-day the spinning and weaving are done by machinery in large mills.

159. Travel.—Years ago, travel was slow and dangerous. Outside of the towns and cities, people generally went upon horseback because the roads were not good enough for carriages.

Early Travel on Horseback.

There were some good roads connecting the larger towns and cities. The old-fashioned stage-

coach was used on these roads. It took three days or more to go from Philadelphia to New York in this way. To-day an express train makes the trip in about two hours.

The steam locomotive was first used in America about seventy-five years ago. All the cities and most

Old Stage-coach and Inn.

of the small towns are now connected by lines of railroad.

Electricity is also used to make cars go. To-day there are trolley cars in almost every little town. We may live to see the day when electricity will be

used instead of steam on all railroads. Automobiles are being used more and more. The time may come

Electric Car.

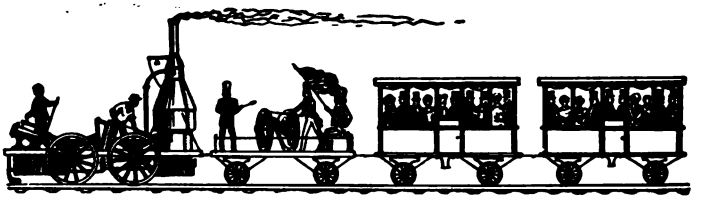
when it will be a rare sight to see a carriage drawn by a horse.

Travel on water has also changed very much since colonial days. In those days, row-boats and sail-boats were used. Sometimes people made long journeys in canal-boats. Traveling was slow and uncomfortable.

About a hundred years ago the steamboat was invented by Robert Fulton. The people were surprised, and many were scared, when they first saw Fulton's boat steaming up the Hudson River.

Soon steamboats were being built in many parts of the country. At first they were used only on the rivers and lakes. To-day large steamships built of steel cross the ocean and go to all parts of the

world. Some of these ships are so large that they can carry three or four thousand passengers.



Old Print of First Railroad Train.

Steamships are safer, faster, and much more comfortable than the old-fashioned sailing vessels.

Modern Express Train.

160. Communication, Letters and Messages.—In colonial days, messages had to be carried from one place to another. There was no other way of sending them. As travel was slow, it took a long time for messages to be delivered.

Automobile.

The slow old stage-coaches were used for carrying mail. The people in Philadelphia would not know what was happening in Boston until a week or more after it had taken place.

Sometimes very important messages were sent by men on horseback called **couriers.** Even such messengers were slow compared with the railroads and steamships of to-day.

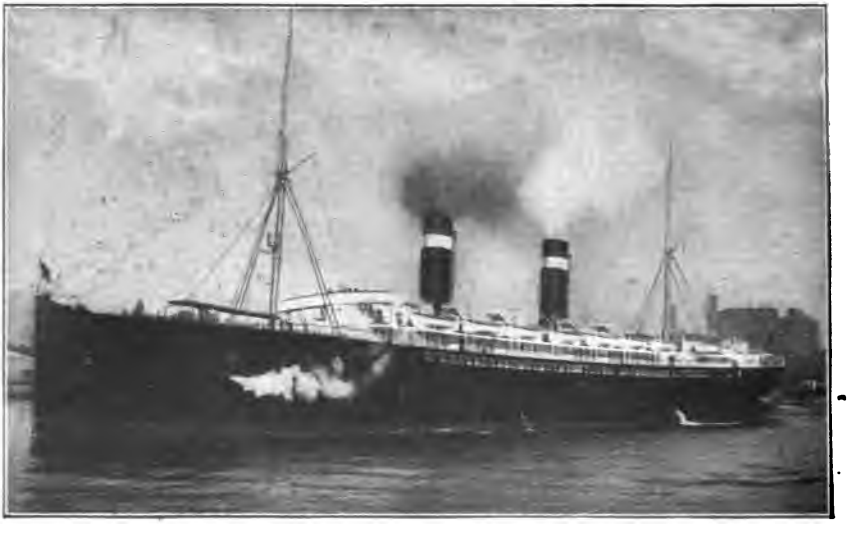
Courier.

Although railroads and steamships carry the

Travel by Canal-boat.

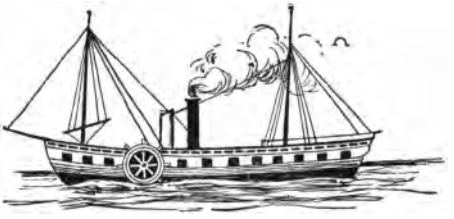
mail very quickly, we now have quicker ways of sending messages.

Nearly seventy years ago Professor Morse found



Modern Steamship.

a way to send messages along wires by means of electricity. His invention is called the **telegraph**. The message travels as fast as lightning.



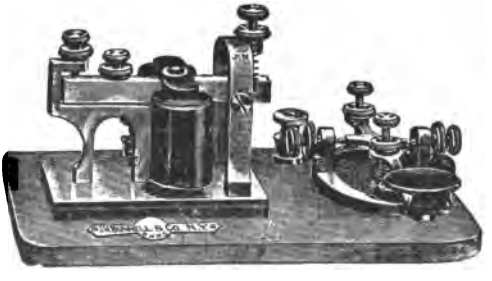
Old Print of Steamboat.

To-day telegraph poles and wires may be seen all over the country. Wire cables have even been laid along the bed of the ocean from continent to continent. Important news is telegraphed all over the world, so that it is known everywhere almost as soon as it happens.

The **telephone** is another wonderful invention. It is better than the telegraph because you can talk to people many miles away and hear their answers at once.

Telephone.

People nowadays have become so used to the telephone and telegraph that they would not know how to get along without them. We would find it hard to go back to the days of the courier and the stage-coach.



Telegraph Instrument.

APPENDIX.

PATRIOTIC SELECTIONS.

PAUL REVERE'S RIDE.

LISTEN, my children, and you shall hear
Of the midnight ride of Paul Revere,
On the eighteenth of April, in Seventy-Five:
Hardly a man is now alive
Who remembers that famous day and year.
He said to his friend—"If the British march
By land or sea from the town to-night,
Hang a lantern aloft in the belfry-arch
Of the North Church tower, as a signal-light—
One if by land, and two if by sea;
And I on the opposite shore will be,
Ready to ride and spread the alarm
Through every Middlesex village and farm,
For the country-folk to be up and to arm."

Then he said good-night, and with muffled oar
Silently rowed to the Charlestown shore,
Just as the moon rose over the bay,
Where swinging wide at her moorings lay
The Somerset, British man-of-war:
A phantom ship, with each mast and spar
Across the moon like a prison bar,

And a huge, black hulk, that was magnified
By its own reflection in the tide.

Meanwhile his friend, through alley and street,
Wanders and watches with eager ears,
Till in the silence around him he hears
The muster of men at the barrack-door,
The sound of arms, and the tramp of feet,
And the measured tread of the grenadiers
Marching down to their boats on the shore.

Then he climbed the tower of the old North Church
Up the wooden stairs, with stealthy tread,
To the belfry-chamber overhead,
And startled the pigeons from their perch
On the sombre rafters, that round him made
Masses and moving shapes of shade—
By the trembling ladder, steep and tall,
To the highest window in the wall,
Where he paused to listen and look down
A moment on the roofs of the quiet town,
And the moonlight flowing over all.

* * * * * *

Meanwhile, impatient to mount and ride,
Booted and spurred, with a heavy stride,
On the opposite shore walked Paul Revere.
Now he patted his horse's side,
Now gazed on the landscape far and near,
Then impetuous stamped the earth,
And turned and tightened his saddle-girth;
But mostly he watched with eager search
The belfry-tower of the old North Church,
As it rose above the graves on the hill,
Lonely, and spectral, and sombre, and still.

And lo! as he looks, on the belfry's height
A glimmer, and then a gleam of light!
He springs to the saddle, the bridle he turns,
But lingers and gazes, till full on his sight
A second lamp in the belfry burns!
A hurry of hoofs in the village street,
A shape in the moonlight, a bulk in the dark,
And beneath from the pebbles, in passing, a spark
Struck out by a steed flying fearless and fleet:
That was all! And yet, through the gloom and the light,
The fate of a nation was riding that night;
And the spark struck out by that steed, in his flight,
Kindled the land into flame with its heat.

* * * * * *

You know the rest. In the books you have read
How the British regulars fired and fled—
How the farmers gave them ball for ball,
From behind each fence and farm-yard wall,
Chasing the red-coats down the lane,
Then crossing the fields to emerge again
Under the trees at the turn of the road,
And only pausing to fire and load.

So through the night rode Paul Revere;
And so through the night went his cry of alarm
To every Middlesex village and farm—
A cry of defiance, and not of fear—
A voice in the darkness, a knock at the door,
And a word that shall echo for evermore!
For, borne on the night-wind of the Past,
Through all our history, to the last,
In the hour of darkness, and peril, and need,
The people will waken and listen to hear
The hurrying hoof-beats of that steed,
And the midnight message of Paul Revere.

—*Longfellow.*

CONCORD HYMN.

By the rude bridge that arched the flood,
  Their flag to April's breeze unfurled,
Here once the embattled farmers stood,
  And fired the shot heard round the world.

The foe long since in silence slept;
  Alike the conqueror silent sleeps;
And Time the ruined bridge has swept
  Down the dark stream which seaward creeps.

On this green bank, by this soft stream,
  We set to-day a votive stone,
That memory may their deed redeem
  When, like our sires, our sons are gone.

Spirit that made those heroes dare
  To die or leave their children free,
Bid Time and Nature gently spare
  The shaft we raise to them and thee.

— *Ralph Waldo Emerson.*

INDEPENDENCE BELL.

There was tumult in the city,
  In the quaint old Quaker town,
And the streets were rife with people
  Pacing restless up and down;
People gathering at corners,
  Where they whispered each to each,
And the sweat stood on their temples,
  With the earnestness of speech.

* * * *

"Will they do it?" "Dare they do it?"
  "Who is speaking?" "What's the news?"
"What of Adams?" "What of Sherman?"
  "O, God grant they won't refuse!"

"Make some way, there!" "Let me nearer!"
"I am stifling!"—"Stifle, then:
When a nation's life's at hazard,
We've no time to think of men!"

* * * *

Aloft in that high steeple
Sat the bellman, old and gray;
He was weary of the tyrant
And his iron-sceptered sway;
So he sat with one hand ready
On the clapper of the bell,
When his eye should catch the signal,
Very happy news to tell.

See! see! the dense crowd quivers
Through all its lengthy line,
As the boy beside the portal
Looks forth to give the sign!
With his small hands upward lifted,
Breezes dallying with his hair,
Hark! with deep, clear intonation,
Breaks his young voice on the air.

Hushed the people's swelling murmur,
List the boy's strong joyous cry!
"Ring!" he shouts aloud; "ring! Grandpa!
Ring! O, ring for Liberty!"
And straightway, at the signal,
The old bellman lifts his hand,
And sends the good news, making
Iron music through the land.

How they shouted! What rejoicing!
How the old bell shook the air,
Till the clang of freedom ruffled
The calm gliding Delaware!

How the bonfires and the torches
  Illumed the night's repose,
And from the flames, like Phœnix,
  Fair Liberty arose!

That old bell now is silent,
  And hushed its iron tongue,
But the spirit it awakened
  Still lives—forever young.
And while we greet the sunlight
  On the Fourth of each July,
We'll ne'er forget the bellman,
  Who, 'twixt the earth and sky,
Rung out our Independence,
  Which, please God, shall never die!

—*Anonymous*

INDEPENDENCE.

Day of glory, welcome day,
Freedom's banners greet thy ray;
See, how cheerfully they play
  With thy morning breeze,
On the rocks where pilgrims kneeled,
On the heights where squadrons wheeled,
When a tyrant's thunder pealed
  O'er the trembling seas.

* * * *

God of peace, whose spirit fills
All the echoes of our hills,
All the murmurs of our rills,
  Now the storm is o'er,
Oh, let freemen be our sons,
And let future Washingtons
Rise, to lead their valiant ones,
Till there's war no more.

By the patriot's hallowed rest,
By the warrior's gory breast,
Never let our graves be pressed
By a despot's throne;
By the pilgrims' toil and cares,
By their battles and their prayers,
By their ashes, let our heirs
Bow to Thee alone.

—*John Pierpont.*

SONG OF MARION'S MEN.

Our band is few, but true and tried, our leader frank and bold
The British soldier trembles when Marion's name is told.
Our fortress is the good greenwood, our tent the cypress-tree:
We know the forest round us, as seamen know the sea;
We know its walls of thorny vines, its glades of reedy grass,
Its safe and silent islands within the dark morass.

Woe to the English soldiery that little dread us near!
On them shall light at midnight a strange and sudden fear;
When, waking to their tents on fire, they grasp their arms in vain,
And they who stand to face us are beat to earth again;
And they who fly in terror deem a mighty host behind,
And hear the tramp of thousands upon the hollow wind.

Then sweet the hour that brings release from danger and from toil!
We talk the battle over, and share the battle's spoil;
The woodland rings with laugh and shout, as if a hunt were up,
And woodland flowers are gathered to crown the soldier's cup,
With merry songs we mock the wind that in the pine-top grieves,
And slumber long and sweetly on beds of oaken leaves.

Well knows the fair and friendly moon the band that Marion leads,—
The glitter of their rifles, the scampering of their steeds.
'Tis life to guide the fiery barb across the moonlit plain;
'Tis life to feel the night-wind that lifts his tossing mane:
A moment in the British camp,—a moment, and away
Back to the pathless forest before the peep of day.

Grave men there are by broad Santee, grave men with hoary hairs,—
Their hearts are all with Marion, for Marion are their prayers.
And lovely ladies greet our band with kindliest welcoming,
With smiles like those of summer and tears like those of spring.
For them we wear these trusty arms, and lay them down no more,
Till we have driven the Briton for ever from our shore.

—*Bryant.*

THE AMERICAN FLAG.

When Freedom from her mountain height
  Unfurl'd her standard to the air,
She tore the azure robe of night,
  And set the stars of glory there.

She mingled with its gorgeous dyes
The milky baldric of the skies,
And striped its pure celestial white,
With streakings of the morning light;
Then, from his mansion in the sun
She called her eagle-bearer down,
And gave into his mighty hand
The symbol of her chosen land.

* * * *

Flag of the free heart's hope and home,
  By angel hands to valor given,
Thy stars have lit the welkin dome,
  And all thy hues were born in heaven.

Forever float that standard sheet!
  Where breathes the foe but falls before us,
With Freedom's soil beneath our feet,
  And Freedom's banner streaming o'er us?

—*J. Rodman Drake.*

THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER.

Oh! say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,
  What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight,
  O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
    And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
    Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
      Oh! say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
      O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

On the shore, dimly seen through the mist of the deep,
  Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes;
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,
  As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?
    Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam;
    In full glory reflected, now shines in the stream;
      'Tis the star-spangled banner; oh! long may it wave
      O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

And where is that band, who so vauntingly swore,
  Mid the havoc of war and the battle's confusion,
A home and a country should leave us no more?
  Their blood has washed out their foul footsteps' pollution.
    No refuge could save the hireling and slave
    From the terror of flight or the gloom of the grave;
      And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave,
      O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

Oh! thus be it ever, when free-men shall stand
Between our lov'd home and the war's desolation!
Blest with victory and peace, may the Heav'n rescued land
Praise the Power that hath made and preserv'd us a nation!
Then conquer we must when our cause it is just;
And this be our motto, "In God is our trust;"
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave,
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

—*Francis Scott Key*

UNION AND LIBERTY.

Flag of the heroes who left us their glory,
Borne through their battle-fields' thunder and flame,
Blazoned in song and illumined in story,
Wave o'er us all who inherit their fame!
Up with our banner bright,
Sprinkled with starry light,
Spread its fair emblems from mountain to shore,
While through the sounding sky
Loud rings the Nation's cry,—
Union and Liberty! One Evermore!

* * * * * *

Lord of the Universe, shield us and guide us,
Trusting Thee always, through shadow and sun.
Thou hast united us, who shall divide us?
Keep us, O, keep us the Many in One!
Up with our banner bright,
Sprinkled with starry starry light,
Spread its fair emblems from mountain to shore,
While through the sounding sky
Loud rings the Nation's cry,—
Union and Liberty! One Evermore!

—*O. W. Holmes.*

ODE FOR DECORATION DAY.

Flowers for the mourned ones, fresh in their bloom,
Gifts of the grateful, brighten their tomb.
Sing the glad anthems, loved they so well;
Speak of their loyalty, deeds of theirs tell;
Visit each grave with a floral oblation;
Leave, where they slumber, love's sweet decoration!

Tears for the brave ones, fallen in strife,
Liberty's martyrs, giving their life!
Patriot soldiers, loving their land,
Hasting to battle,—heroes so grand!
Honor their memories on History's pages;
Build for them monuments lasting through ages!

Dirges for brothers sleeping in death!
Faced they the cannon's sulphurous breath;
Feared not the foeman, never would yield;
Bled for their country, died on the field!
Precious their offering,—let it be cherished;
Gratitude give them, for nobly they perished!

Fame for the true hearts, true to the flag,
Strong for the Union, firm as a crag!
Fireblast of battle, missles of lead,
Turned them not backward, laying them dead!
Deeds of such daring with earth's choicest are blended,
Long as the flag waves, so bravely defended!

Garlands unfading give to our braves;
Flowers immortal bloom on their graves!
Veteran warriors, young hearts and bold,
Foremost in conflict,—silent and cold!
Memory keeps and rehearses their story;
Die not their names, star-lighted with glory!

Rest for the martyred,—rest in the grave;
Thunders of battle wake not the brave;
War-drum and shouting, musketry's roar,
Rolling loud o'er them, heeded no more!
Peace that they fought for came to us timely;
Freedom they died for triumphed sublimely.

—*S. Drayton Phelps*

THE PATRIOT DEAD.

Breathe balmy airs, ye fragrant flowers,
O'er every silent sleeper's head;
Ye crystal dews and summer showers,
Dress in fresh green each lowly bed.

Strew loving offerings o'er the brave,
Their country's joy, their country's pride;
For us their precious lives they gave,
For freedom's sacred cause they died.

Each cherished name its place shall hold,
Like stars that gem the azure sky;
Their deeds, on history's page enrolled,
Are sealed for immortality.

Long, where on glory's fields they fell,
May Freedom's spotless banner wave,
And fragrant tributes grateful tell
Where live the free, where sleep the brave.

—*Samuel Francis Smith.*

DEATH OF LINCOLN.

Oh, slow to smite and swift to spare,
Gentle and merciful and just!
Who, in fear of God, did'st bear
The sword of power, a nation's trust.

In sorrow by thy bier we stand,
  Amid the awe that hushes all,
And speak the anguish of a land
  That shook with horror at thy fall.

Thy task is done. The bond are free.
  We bear thee to an honored grave,
Whose proudest monument shall be
  The broken fetters of the slave.

Pure was thy life. Its bloody close
  Hath placed thee with the sons of light,
Among the noble host of those
  Who perished in the cause of Right.

—*William Cullen Bryant.*

AMERICA.

My country, 'tis of thee
Sweet land of liberty,
  Of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the Pilgrims' pride,
From every mountain side,
  Let freedom ring!

My native country, thee,
Land of the noble free,
  Thy name I love;
I love thy rocks and rills,
Thy woods and templed hills;
My heart with rapture thrills,
  Like that above.

Let music swell the breeze,
And ring from all the trees
Sweet Freedom's song;
Let mortal tongues awake,
Let all that breathe partake,
Let rocks their silence break,
The sound prolong.

Our fathers' God to Thee,
Author of liberty,
To Thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright
With Freedom's holy light;
Protect us by Thy might,
Great God our King!

—*Samuel Francis Smith.*